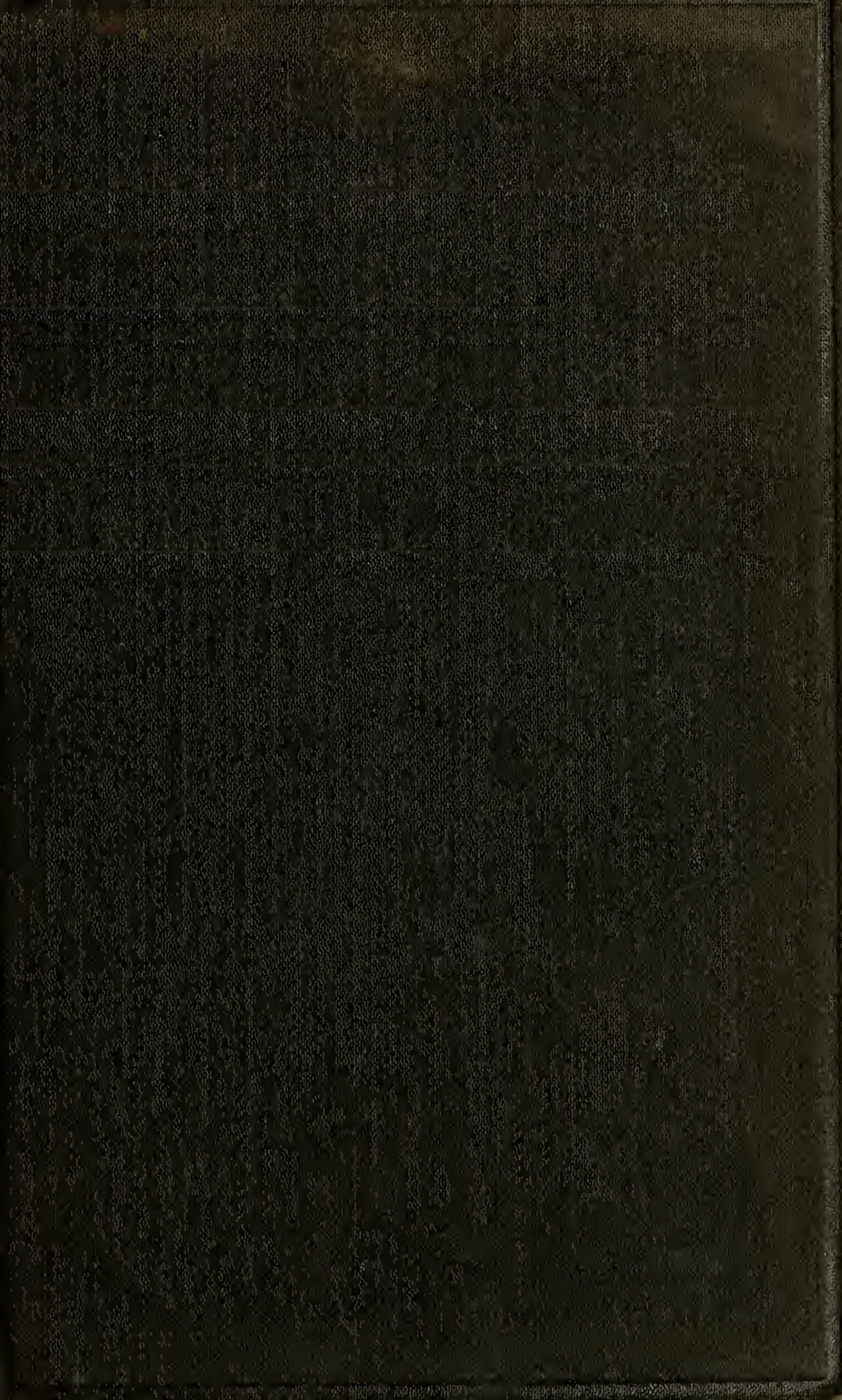




MINUTES

OF THE

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OF THE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

IN THE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

FROM A. D. 1833 TO A. D. 1847, INCLUSIVE.



PHILADELPHIA:
PRESBYTERIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION
AND SABBATH-SCHOOL WORK,
No. 1334 CHESTNUT STREET.

2925
7/5/1890

NOTE.

THIS volume of the *Minutes* of the General Assembly is published under the following authorization :

A committee was appointed by the General Assembly (*Minutes*, 1884, p. 121), viz. :

“*Resolved*, That the Stated and Permanent Clerks be a Committee to report to the next General Assembly upon the advisability of reprinting any or all of the Minutes of the General Assembly between the years 1836 and 1869, said Committee to serve without expense to the Assembly.”

The Committee reported progress (*Minutes*, 1885, p. 684), recommending, *inter alia*, “that the expense of this republication be borne by the Board of Publication, and that the number of copies to be issued be left to the judgment of the committee to be appointed to take charge of the matter.

“The report was adopted, and the Assembly directed that the Stated and Permanent Clerks be a Committee to have charge of the printing of said Minutes.” The Committee was continued (1886, p. 15).

The Committee now report that the work is in a state of forwardness to meet the convenience of the Board of Publication.

The plan adopted by the Board is to add the Minutes of 1836 and 1837 to the volume already published, 1821–1835, so making complete the Minutes of the Church from 1706 to 1837; the year of the division; and to print in four volumes the Minutes of the O. S. from 1838 to 1869, and in two volumes the Minutes of the N. S. for the same period, so completing the Minutes of the whole Church from 1706 to 1869. These volumes will be of nearly uniform size, containing, with complete indices, about 550 pages each (*Minutes* of 1887, p. 57).

WM. H. ROBERTS,
WM. E. MOORE.



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MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

1838.

PHILADELPHIA, PA., *May 17th*, 1838.

THE General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America met agreeably to appointment in the Seventh Presbyterian Church, in the city of Philadelphia, on Thursday, the 17th day of May, A. D. 1838, at 11 o'clock A. M.; and was opened by a sermon by the Rev. David Elliott, D. D., the Moderator of the last Assembly, from Isaiah lx. 1: "Arise, shine, for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee."

After the sermon the Moderator gave notice that as soon as the benediction was pronounced he would take the chair and proceed to the organization of the Assembly. The benediction being pronounced, the Moderator took the chair, and having opened the meeting with prayer, called upon the Permanent Clerk to report the roll.

The Rev. William Patton, a member of the Third Presbytery of New York, rose, and asked leave to offer certain resolutions which he held in his hand.

The Moderator declared the request at that time to be out of order, as the first business was the report of the Clerks.*

Dr. Patton appealed from the decision. The Moderator declared the appeal, for the reason already stated, to be at that time out of order. Dr. Patton stated that the resolutions related to the formation of the roll, and began to read the same; but, being called to order, took his seat.

The Permanent Clerk, from the Standing Committee of Commissions, reported that the following persons, present, have been duly appointed and are enrolled as Commissioners to this General Assembly, and laid their commissions on the table, viz.:

I. OF THE SYNOD OF ALBANY.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDER.
<i>Londonderry,</i>	John H. Church, D. D. Ephraim P. Bradford (1).† Daniel T. Smith.	
<i>Newburyport,</i> <i>Champlain.</i>		
<i>Troy,</i>	Nathan S. S. Beman, D. D., Nicholas M. Masters. Samuel T. Spear.	

* See Form of Government, chapter xii. sec. 7.

† A figure attached to the name of a member shows that he was not *enrolled* by the Committee of Commissions in their report at the organization of the Assembly, but was enrolled and took his seat subsequently to the organization, on that day of the sessions designated by the figure.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
<i>Albany,</i>	Eliphalet Nott, D. D., Erasmus D. MacMaster.	Isaac N. Beach.
<i>Columbia,</i>	Augustus L. Chapin, Jared B. Waterbury,	Lawrence Vandyke. Frederick Tyler.

II. OF THE SYNOD OF NEW YORK.

<i>Hudson,</i>	Samuel Pelton, William Blain,	Martin L. Mapes. Norman Judson.
<i>North River,</i>	Eliphalet Price,	Aaron Raymond.
<i>Bedford,</i>	Robert G. Thompson (1), Ralph Smith.	John Owen.
<i>Long Island,</i>	James M'Dougal,	John Everett.
<i>Long Island (2d),</i>	William W. Phillips, D. D., Elias W. Crane,	Hugh Auchincloss. Abraham G. Blauvelt.
<i>New York,</i>	Ebenezer K. Maxwell, Erskine Mason, D. D., William Patton, D. D.,	Henry Rankin. Robert M. Hartley. Daniel Pierson.

III. OF THE SYNOD OF NEW JERSEY.

<i>Newark,</i>	William R. Weeks, D. D., Samuel Fisher, D. D.,	Israel Crane. Obadiah Woodruff.
<i>Elizabethtown,</i>	Lewis Bond, James M. Hunting,	Robert Anderson. James Bower.
<i>New Brunswick,</i>	Eli F. Cooley, John Maclean,	William Wilson. David W. Vail.
<i>Newton,</i>	Joseph Campbell, D. D., John Gray,	William Long. Peter Thompson.
<i>Susquehanna,</i>	Ebenezer H. Snowden,	Henry C. Anhauser.
<i>Montrose,</i>		Isaac P. Foster.

IV. OF THE SYNOD OF PHILADELPHIA.

<i>Philadelphia,</i>	Ashbel Green, D. D., William Latta,	A. W. Mitchell, M. D. Alexander Symington.
<i>Philadelphia (2d),</i>	William J. Gibson,	Robert Wallace.
<i>New Castle,</i>	William Finney, Lindley C. Rutter,	John Robinson. J. W. Cunningham (1).
<i>Wilmington,</i>	Eliphalet W. Gilbert,	Willard Hall.
<i>Lewes,</i>		Simon K. Wilson.
<i>Baltimore,</i>	Robert J. Breckinridge,	George Morris.
<i>Carlisle,</i>	John Moody, Nathan G. White,	Alexander M'Coy. John Clendenin.
<i>Huntingdon,</i>	Joshua Moore (1),	William Smyth.
<i>Northumberland,</i>	Samuel S. Sheddan,	Richard Matchin.

V. OF THE SYNOD OF PITTSBURGH.

<i>Blairsville,</i>	Samuel Swan,	Smith Agnew.
<i>Redstone,</i>	Cyrus B. Bristol,	Hugh Campbell, M. D.
<i>Washington,</i>	John Stockton,	James Lee.
<i>Ohio,</i>	David Elliott, D. D., Thomas D. Baird,	Harmar Denny. Walter H. Lowrie.
<i>Allegheny,</i>	Samuel Caldwell,	Benjamin Junkin.
<i>Steubenville,</i>	Charles C. Beatty,	Humphrey H. Leavitt.
<i>Beaver,</i>	Andrew O. Patterson,	John Clarke.
<i>Erie,</i>	Pierce Chamberlain,	George Kellogg.

VI. OF THE SYNOD OF MICHIGAN.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
<i>Detroit,</i>	John P. Cleaveland.	
<i>St. Joseph,</i>	Silas Woodbury,	A. G. Hammond.
<i>Monroe,</i>	Erastus N. Nicholas,	Henry Disbrow.

VII. OF THE SYNOD OF OHIO.

<i>Athens,</i>	Luther G. Bingham,	Marcus Bosworth.
<i>Columbus,</i>	James Hoge, D. D.,	John Entrekin.
<i>Lancaster,</i>	James Culbertson,	John C. Stockton.
<i>Wooster,</i>	Joseph S. Wylie,	John Elliott.
<i>Richland,</i>	Henry Hervey,	James Elliott (1).
<i>Marion,</i>	Henry Van Deman,	S. G. Strong.

VIII. OF THE SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

<i>Chillicothe,</i>	Samuel Crothers,	Richard Long.
<i>Miami,</i>	John L. Belville,	Cyrus Johnson.
<i>Cincinnati,</i>	Lyman Beecher, D. D.,	John Q. A. Bassett.
	Baxter Dickinson,	George L. Weed.
<i>Oxford,</i>	Robert Irwin,	John Mollyneaux.
<i>Sidney,</i>	Samuel Cleland,	John Ewing.

IX. OF THE SYNOD OF INDIANA.

<i>Salem,</i>	William W. Martin (11),	Henry L. Fabrigue (11).
<i>Vincennes,</i>	Matthew G. Wallace.	John Lagow.
<i>Madison,</i>	William C. Matthews,	Victor King.
<i>Crawfordsville,</i>	Samuel G. Lowry,	John S. Jennings.
<i>Indianapolis,</i>	William Sickles,	William M. Tate.
<i>Logansport,</i>	Alexander T. Rankin.	

X. OF THE SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.

<i>Illinois,</i>	Edward Beecher,	A. H. Burritt.
<i>Kaskasia,</i>	Benjamin F. Spilman,	W. A. G. Posey.
<i>Sangamon,</i>	Cyrus L. Watson.	
<i>Ottawa,</i>	John Blatchford.	
<i>Schuyler,</i>	Samuel Wilson.	
<i>Palestine.</i>		
<i>Peoria,</i>	Flavel Baseom,	Charles Barrows.
<i>Alton,</i>	Albert Hale.	

XI. OF THE SYNOD OF MISSOURI.

<i>Missouri.</i>		
<i>St. Louis,</i>		James M. Covington.
<i>St. Charles,</i>		Alexander J. Dallas.

XII. OF THE SYNOD OF KENTUCKY.

<i>Louisville,</i>	James Hawthorn,	John Bemiss, M. D.
<i>Muhlenberg,</i>	John Lyle.	
<i>Transylvania,</i>		Mr. John Green (9).
<i>West Lexington,</i>	Robert Davidson,	Samuel M. Wallace.
<i>Ebenezer,</i>	R. C. Grundy,	Thomas M. Poage.

XIII. OF THE SYNOD OF VIRGINIA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
<i>Lexington,</i>	John D. Ewing,	James M'Nutt.
	James C. Wilson,	William A. Bell.
<i>Greenbrier,</i>	David R. Preston (1),	Thomas Beard (1).
<i>Winchester,</i>	Samuel B. Wilson, D. D.,	James H. Fitzgerald.
<i>District of Columbia,</i>	William Hill, D. D.,	Robert Jamieson.
<i>West Hanover,</i>	George A. Baxter, D. D.,	Samuel M'Corkle.
	Andrew Hart,	Paul C. Venable, M. D.
<i>East Hanover,</i>	William S. Plumer,	William Maxwell.

XIV. OF THE SYNOD OF NORTH CAROLINA.

<i>Roanoke,</i>	William M'Pheeters, D. D.,	Thomas H. Willie.
<i>Orange,</i>	N. H. Harding,	Richard J. Smith.
<i>Fayetteville,</i>	William N. Peacock,	Alexander Martin.
<i>Concord,</i>	Samuel Williamson,	William L. Davidson.
	John Williamson,	William King.
<i>Morganton,</i>	Albertus L. Watts.	

XV. OF THE SYNOD OF TENNESSEE.

<i>Abingdon,</i>	Daniel H. Hoge.	
<i>Union,</i>	J. E. Montgomery,	Walter M. M'Gill.
	Levi R. Morrison,	Andrew Early.
<i>French Broad,</i>	Gideon S. White,	William Dick.
<i>Holston,</i>	Daniel Rogan,	John Patton.

XVI. OF THE SYNOD OF WEST TENNESSEE.

<i>West Tennessee,</i>	Thomas F. Scott.	
<i>Nashville,</i>	Robert A. Lapsley,	James C. Robinson.
<i>Shiloh,</i>	William Eagleton.	
<i>North Alabama,</i>	James O. Stedman,	Thomas Childress.
<i>Western District,</i>	Samuel Hodge,	John Ingram, M. D.

XVII. OF THE SYNOD OF SOUTH CAROLINA AND GEORGIA.

<i>South Carolina,</i>	Hugh Dickson,	Alexander Chambers.
<i>Bethel,</i>	J. Le Roy Davies,	John M. Doby.
<i>Harmony,</i>	John Witherspoon, D. D.,	Lawrence Prince.
<i>Charleston Union,</i>	Elipha White.	
	Thomas Macgruder.	
<i>Georgia,</i>	Horace S. Pratt,	Ebenezer S. Rees.
<i>Hopewell,</i>	Samuel S. Davis,	William Shear.
<i>Flint River,</i>	John S. Wilson,	David C. Campbell.

XVIII. OF THE SYNOD OF ALABAMA.

<i>South Alabama,</i>	Robert Nall.	
<i>Tuscaloosa,</i>	Joseph B. Adams,	James Knox.
<i>Tombeckbee,</i>	Samuel Hurd,	Eli Neely.

XIX. OF THE SYNOD OF MISSISSIPPI.

<i>Mississippi,</i>	Samuel B. Jones,	John Chamberlain.
<i>Clinton,</i>	A. C. Dickerson,	William M. Murdock.
<i>Arkansas,</i>		Aaron W. Lyon (12).
<i>Louisiana,</i>	John L. Montgomery,	James Cooper.

FROM CORRESPONDING BODIES.

<i>General Association of</i>	}	Harvey Curtis.
<i>Connecticut.</i>		
<i>General Association of</i>	}	
<i>Massachusetts.</i>		
<i>General Association of</i>	}	
<i>New Hampshire.</i>		
<i>General Convention of</i>	}	
<i>Vermont,</i>		
<i>General Synod of the</i>	}	
<i>Reformed Dutch</i>		
<i>Church.</i>	}	
<i>General Synod of the</i>		
<i>German Reformed</i>	}	
<i>Church.</i>		
<i>General Conference of</i>	}	
<i>Maine.</i>		
<i>Evangelical Consocia-</i>	}	
<i>tion of Rhode Island.</i>		

The Committee of Commissions further reported that the Rev. Robert G. Thompson, of the Presbytery of Bedford; Rev. Adam Millar, of the Presbytery of Montrose; and Mr. James Elliott, a ruling elder of the Presbytery of Richland, have stated to the committee that they were appointed by their respective Presbyteries, but have not their commissions; that the commission of Mr. John W. Cunningham, a ruling elder from the Presbytery of New Castle, wants the signature of the Moderator; and that the commission of Rev. Ephraim P. Bradford, of the Presbytery of Londonderry, wants the signature of the Clerk.

They further reported that the Rev. David R. Preston and Mr. Thomas Beard, a ruling elder, appeared before the committee with regular commissions from the Presbytery of Greenbrier, which commissions were accompanied with an attested extract from the minutes of the Synod of Virginia, certifying that said Presbytery was regularly constituted by the Synod of Virginia, October 10, 1837.

The documents referred to in the foregoing report of the informal cases were laid on the table by the Permanent Clerk.

After the report of the Committee on Commissions had been read, the Moderator stated that the Commissioners whose commissions had been examined, and whose names had been enrolled, were to be considered as members of this Assembly;* and added that if there were any Commissioners present from the Presbyteries belonging to the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, whose names had not been enrolled, then was the time for presenting their commissions.

Dr. Mason rose, as he said, to offer a resolution to "complete the roll," by adding the names of certain Commissioners who, he said, had offered their commissions to the Clerks, and had been by them refused. The Moderator inquired if they were from Presbyteries belonging to the Assembly at the close of the sessions of last year? Dr. Mason replied that they were from Presbyteries belonging to the Synods of Utica, Geneva, Genesee, and the Western Reserve. The Moderator then stated that the motion was out of order at this time. Dr. Mason appealed from the decision of the Moderator, which appeal also the Moderator declared to be out of order, and repeated the call for commissions from Presbyteries in connection with the Assembly.

* See Form of Government, chap. xii. sec. 7.

The Rev. Miles P. Squier, a member of the Presbytery of Geneva, then rose and stated that he had a commission from the Presbytery of Geneva, which he had presented to the Clerks, who refused to receive it, and that he now offered it to the Assembly and claimed his right to his seat. The Moderator inquired if the Presbytery of Geneva was within the bounds of the Synod of Geneva. Mr. Squier replied that it was. The Moderator said: "Then we do not know you, sir," and declared the application out of order. Mr. Cleaveland then rose and began to read a paper, the purport of which was not heard, when the Moderator called him to order. Mr. Cleaveland, however, notwithstanding the call to order was repeated by the Moderator, persisted in the reading. During which the Rev. Joshua Moore, from the Presbytery of Huntingdon, presented a commission, which being examined by the Committee of Commissions, Mr. Moore was enrolled, and took his seat.

It was then moved to appoint a Committee of Elections to which the informal commissions might be referred. But the reading by Mr. Cleaveland still continuing, and the Moderator having in vain again called to order, took his seat, and the residue of the Assembly remaining silent, the business was suspended during the short but painful scene of confusion and disorder which ensued. After which, and the actors therein having left the house, the Assembly resumed its business.

On motion,

The cases of Messrs. Thompson, Millar, Elliott, Cunningham, Bradford, Preston, and Beard, and the documents concerning them, were referred to Messrs. Culbertson, J. L. R. Davies, and Hugh Campbell as a Committee of Elections.

The Rev. William S. Plumer was unanimously elected Moderator and the Rev. Elias W. Crane was unanimously elected Temporary Clerk.

The Committee of Elections reported that the following persons, whose cases had been submitted to them, were regularly appointed Commissioners to this Assembly, and recommended that they be severally admitted to seats, viz.: Rev. Robert G. Thompson, of the Presbytery of Bedford; Mr. James Elliott, ruling elder of the Presbytery of Richland; Mr. John W. Cunningham, ruling elder of the Presbytery of New Castle; the Rev. Ephraim P. Bradford and Rev. David R. Preston and Mr. Thomas Beard, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Greenbrier; they further reported that the Rev. Adam Millar, of the Presbytery of Montrose, did not appear before the committee.

The case of the Commissioners from the Presbytery of Greenbrier was referred back to the Committee of Elections, and that part of their report relative to Messrs. Thompson, Elliott, Cunningham, and Bradford was adopted, and it was ordered that their names be inserted in the roll. These Commissioners took their seats.

And then the Assembly adjourned till this afternoon at 5 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday afternoon, 5 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

On motion,

Resolved, That the roll be called, and that the members present and the members absent be marked and recorded.

The roll was called, and the following answered to their names, viz.: Messrs. Church, Bradford, Nott, MacMaster, I. N. Beach, Pelton, Blain, Mapes, Judson, Price, R. G. Thompson, Owen, M'Dougal, Everett, Phillips, E. W. Crane, Auchincloss, Blauvelt, E. K. Maxwell, H. Rankin, Bond, Huntting, Anderson, Bower, Cooley, Maclean, William Wilson, Vail, J.

Campbell, Gray, Long, P. Thompson, Anhauser, Latta, Mitchell, Symington, Gibson, R. Wallace, Finney, Rutter, J. Robinson, Cunningham, Breckinridge, Morris, Moody, N. G. White, McCoy, Clendenin, Moore, Smyth, Sheddan, Matchin, Swan, Agnew, Bristol, H. Campbell, J. Stockton, Lee, D. Elliott, Baird, Denny, W. H. Lowrie, Caldwell, Junkin, Beatty, Leavitt, Patterson, Clark, J. Hoge, Entrekin, Culbertson, J. C. Stockton, J. S. Wylie, John Elliott, Hervy, James Elliott, Crothers, Belville, C. Johnson, Irwin, Mollyneaux, Cleland, J. Ewing, M. G. Wallace, Lagow, Matthews, Sickles, Tate, A. T. Rankin, Spilman, Posey, S. Wilson, Hawthorn, Bemiss, Lyle, R. Davidson, S. M. Wallace, Grundy, Poage, J. D. Ewing, J. C. Wilson, M'Nutt, Bell, Preston, T. Beard, S. B. Wilson, Fitzgerald, Baxter, Hart, M'Corkle, Venable, Plumer, W. Maxwell, M'Pheeters, T. H. Willie, Harding, R. J. Smith, Peacock, Martin, S. Williamson, J. Williamson, W. L. Davidson, W. King, Watts, D. H. Hoge, Lapsley, J. C. Robinson, Stedman, Childress, Hodge, Ingram, Dickson, Chambers, J. L. R. Davies, Doby, Witherspoon, Prince, Pratt, Rees, S. S. Davis, Shear, J. S. Wilson, D. C. Campbell, Nall, Adams, Knox, Hurd, Neelly, Jones, J. Chamberlain, J. L. Montgomery, and Cooper.

The following were recorded as absent, viz.: Messrs. D. T. Smith, Beman, Spear, Masters, Chapin, Waterbury, Van Dyke, Tyler, Raymond, R. Smith, Mason, W. Patton, Hartley, Pierson, Weeks, Fisher, I. Crane, Woodruff, Snowden, Foster, Green, Gilbert, Hall, S. K. Wilson, P. Chamberlain, Kellogg, Cleaveland, Woodbury, Hammond, Nichols, Disbrow, Bingham, Bosworth, Van Deman, Strong, Long, L. Beecher, B. Dickinson, Bassett, Weed, V. King, S. G. Lowry, Jennings, E. Beecher, Burritt, Watson, Blatchford, Bascom, Barrows, Hale, Covington, Dallas, Hill, Jamieson, J. E. Montgomery, M'Gill, Morrison, Early, G. S. White, Dick, Rogan, John Patton, Scott, Eagleton, E. White, Magruder, A. C. Dickerson, and Murdock.

Rev. Alexander T. Rankin, of the Presbytery of Logansport, and Rev. Samuel Crothers, of the Presbytery of Chillicothe, were permitted to state that they did not wish from this time to be considered members of this body, and Rev. Thomas F. Scott, of the Presbytery of West Tennessee, why he did not answer to his name.

The minutes of the last session were read.

The Committee of Elections reported that the Presbytery of Greenbrier was formed by dividing the Presbytery of Lexington (as will appear by reference to the certificate of the Stated Clerk of the Synod) by the Synod of Virginia, at its sessions in Lexington, in October, 1837, and that the committee have received such information as satisfies them of the necessity and propriety of the formation of the Presbytery of Greenbrier, and they recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

1. *Resolved*, That the Presbytery of Greenbrier be recognized by the Assembly.

2. *Resolved*, That the Rev. David R. Preston and Mr. Thomas Beard be enrolled as members of this Assembly from the said Presbytery.

The report was adopted, and Messrs. Preston and Beard took their seats.

The docket was presented by the Stated Clerk and read.

The printed Minutes of the last Assembly were presented by the Stated Clerk, and distributed to the members.

On motion of Mr. Breckinridge,

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to inquire respecting a supposed discrepancy between the printed and recorded Minutes of the Assembly of 1837.

Messrs. Breckinridge, J. Hoge, and S. S. Davis were appointed this committee.

And then the Assembly adjourned till to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.
Concluded with prayer.

Friday morning, May 18th, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The roll was called, and the minutes of the last session were read.

Messrs. Snowden, Green, and V. King gave reasons for their absence yesterday afternoon, which were deemed satisfactory.

On motion,

Resolved, That the Permanent Clerk cause to be printed, for the use of the Assembly, 500 copies of the roll.

The following committees were appointed, viz.:

On Bills and Overtures.—Messrs. D. Elliott, S. B. Wilson, S. Williamson, Blain, Culbertson, Hawthorn, W. Maxwell, Cooper, D. C. Campbell, and R. J. Smith.

Judicial Committee.—Messrs. M'Pheeters, Spilman, Cleland, J. L. Montgomery, J. D. Ewing, Junkin, Denny, Auchincloss, and Tate.

On Leave of Absence.—Messrs. Harding, J. L. R. Davies, S. Wilson, Bond, Blauvelt, and J. Ewing.

On Mileage.—Messrs. H. Rankin, Morris, and Bemiss.

Of Arrangements for the Devotional Exercises of Wednesday next.—Messrs. McMaster, Snowden, and Symington.

On the Narrative of the State of Religion.—Messrs. Phillips, J. C. Wilson, Sheddan, W. H. Lowrie, and Fitzgerald.

Reports of Presbyteries on the State of Religion were called for, and placed in the hands of the Committee on the Narrative.

The reports from the Presbyteries on the subject of making the alteration in the Constitution proposed by the last Assembly—viz. "That so much of the Constitution of the Church, as empowers the General Assembly to issue appeals, complaints, and references brought before them from the lower judicatories, except in cases of charges against a minister of the gospel for error or heresy, and of process commencing in the Synods, be so amended, that hereafter the Synods, except in the cases before mentioned, be the judicatories of the last resort"—were called for, and committed to Messrs. Cooley, Hurd, and William Wilson.

The following committees were appointed to examine the records of the several Synods, viz.: The records of the Synod of

Albany.—Messrs. Jones, Nall, and Robinson.

New York.—Messrs. Hodge, Dickson, and Shear.

New Jersey.—Messrs. Lapsley, D. H. Hoge, and Childress.

Philadelphia.—Messrs. J. Williamson, Hart, and Venable.

Pittsburgh.—Messrs. R. Davidson, Lyle, and Poage.

Michigan.—Messrs. E. K. Maxwell, Patterson, and Owen.

Ohio.—Messrs. D. T. Smith, E. Price, and Judson.

Cincinnati.—Messrs. J. Campbell, Gibson, and Long.

Indiana.—Messrs. Moody, Moore, and Matchin.

Illinois.—Messrs. J. Stockton, Swan, and Agnew.

Missouri.—Messrs. Beatty, Cleland, and Clarke.

Kentucky.—Messrs. Culbertson, J. S. Wylie, and James Elliott.

Virginia.—Messrs. Grundy, Watts, and S. M. Wallace.

North Carolina.—Messrs. Irwin, Matthews, and Lagow.

Tennessee.—Messrs. Stedman, J. L. Wilson, and Doby.

West Tennessee.—Messrs. Bristol, Belleville, and C. Johnson.

South Carolina and Georgia.—Messrs. Hervey, M. G. Wallace, and Mollyneaux.

Alabama—Messrs. Finney, N. G. White, and Clendenin.

Mississippi—Messrs. Sickles, Rutter, and Cunningham.

The annual report of the Directors of the Western Theological Seminary was presented, read, accepted, and referred to Messrs. J. Stockton, Culbertson, and W. H. Lowrie.

On motion of Mr. J. Hoge,

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to confer with the several Boards which annually report to the Assembly, and arrange the time and manner of presenting their several reports, and report to the Assembly.

Messrs. Hoge, Green, and Mitchell were appointed this committee.

The appeal of certain persons claiming to be the church at St. Charles, against a decision of the Synod of Missouri, referred from the last Assembly (*Minutes*, p. 580), was taken up, and it was made the order of the day for Monday morning next at 10 o'clock.

The committee appointed by the last Assembly, in relation to the printing of all the minutes of the General Assembly from its origin (*Minutes*, p. 580), made a report.

Mr. Breckinridge, from the Committee on Benevolent Operations, appointed by the last Assembly (*Minutes*, pp. 604, 618), made a report and requested that the committee be discharged. The committee was discharged, and the subject placed on the docket.

The appeal of J. C. Harrison, against the Synod of Cincinnati, referred from the last Assembly (*Minutes*, p. 630), was taken up, and it was made the order of the day for this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

The complaint of members of the Synod of Illinois, referred from the last Assembly (*Minutes*, p. 630), was taken up, and laid on the table.

The appeal of Adam Johnson, against the Presbytery of Philadelphia, referred from the last Assembly (*Minutes*, p. 630), was taken up, and referred to the Synod of Philadelphia.

The complaint of the Presbytery of Wilmington, against the Synod of Philadelphia, referred by the last Assembly (*Minutes*, p. 630), was taken up, and made the order of the day for Tuesday morning next at 10 o'clock.

The complaints of John M. Bear, against the Synod of Philadelphia, referred from the last Assembly (*Minutes*, p. 630), were taken up, and made the order of the day for Tuesday next, immediately after the first order.

The Permanent Clerk reported that the following papers had been placed in his hands, viz.: A complaint of William J. Frazer, against the Synod of Illinois; a complaint of Joseph Campbell and others, against the Synod of New Jersey; an appeal of A. G. Morss, from a decision of the Synod of Philadelphia; a complaint of Robert J. Breckinridge, against the Synod of Philadelphia; and a complaint of Samuel Lowry and William J. Frazer, and others, against the Synod of Illinois.

These papers were referred to the Judicial Committee.

And then the Assembly adjourned till this afternoon at half-past 3 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday afternoon, half-past 3 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

Resolved, That the calling of the roll, at the opening of the sessions, be dispensed with.

On motion,

The reference of the appeal of Adam Johnson to the Synod of Philadelphia was reconsidered, and it was

Resolved, That the appeal be dismissed for want of prosecution, and that the appellant have leave to withdraw his papers from the hands of the Stated Clerk.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overtures Nos. 1, 2, and 3, viz.:

No. 1. From the Presbytery of Elizabethtown, on the subject of examining ministers.

No. 2. A petition from Rev. Dr. William D. Snodgrass and others, of the Presbytery of Troy.

No. 3. Several papers from the Presbyteries of New York, New York 2d, and Madison, relative to ministers without charge.

These overtures were accepted, and entered on the docket.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day—viz. the appeal of Joseph C. Harrison from a decision of the Synod of Cincinnati. Mr. Breekinridge, on behalf of Mr. Harrison, was prepared to try the appeal. An attested copy of the records of the Synod of Cincinnati was present. No persons appeared to defend the Synod; and on motion Mr. Cleland was appointed to defend them, and the subject was made the order of the day for Tuesday afternoon next.

On motion of Dr. Nott,

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to confer with the Stated Clerk, in relation to the future disposition of the records and papers belonging to this Assembly. Messrs. Nott, Phillips, and D. C. Campbell were appointed this committee.

Overture No. 1 was taken up, and referred to Messrs. J. Williamson, D. H. Hoge, and W. L. Davidson.

Mr. Breekinridge presented a paper purporting to be a series of resolutions adopted by a convention of Presbyterian ministers and elders, members of the Assembly, which was read, and referred as follows, viz.:

A resolution relative to the carrying out of reforms adopted by the last Assembly, to the Committee of Bills and Overtures, to bring in a minute;

A resolution relative to an equalization of the representation in the Assembly, to the Committee of Bills and Overtures;

A resolution relative to the pastoral relation, to Messrs. Phillips, Rutter, and R. Wallace;

A resolution relative to tracts and Sunday-school books, to the Committee of Bills and Overtures, who were directed to report an overture similar to that adopted by the last Assembly in regard to the Western Foreign Missionary Society.

A resolution of the above series, relative to the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, was laid on the table; and

A resolution of the same series, relative to the Synods that were enjoined by the last Assembly to take order in regard to mixed Presbyteries, creeds, etc. (*Minutes*, p. 647), was entered on the docket.

Overture No. 3 was taken up, and referred to the committee to whom was referred the resolution aforesaid relative to the pastoral relation.

The committee to whom was referred the report of the Directors of the Western Theological Seminary made a report, which was accepted and unanimously adopted, and is as follows, viz.:

1. *Resolved*, That the report of the Board of Directors be approved, and printed in the Appendix to the Minutes.

2. *Resolved*, That the requests of the Board, made to the Assembly, be granted—viz. so to alter Chapter II., Section 7, Sub-section 10, of the Plan of the Western Theological Seminary at Alleghenytown, that it shall read as follows, viz.: "There shall be two vacations in the seminary every year: the spring vacation to continue two months, and the fall vacation six weeks. The vacations to commence at such times as the Board of Directors shall deem most expedient."

Also to alter Chapter II., Section 3, Sub-section 1, of the Plan of the Western Theological Seminary at Alleghenytown, so as to make "seven members," instead of "eleven," sufficient to constitute a quorum.

Resolved, That the sum of five thousand dollars be appropriated by the General Assembly, to pay professors' salaries and the other expenses of the seminary, for the current year.

The Committee of Arrangements, for the devotional exercises of Wednesday next, made a report, which was accepted and adopted, and is as follows, viz.:

1. A statement of the design of the appointment, and invocation, by the Moderator; 2. Psalmody, by Dr. M'Pheeters; 3. Reading of the Scriptures, by Dr. Elliott; 4. Prayer, by Dr. Baxter; 5. Address, by Dr. S. B. Wilson; 6. Psalmody, by Mr. Breckinridge; 7. Prayer, by Mr. S. Williamson; 8. Address by Dr. Hoge; 9. Prayer, Doxology, and Benediction, by Dr. Green.

On motion of Mr. Breckinridge,

Resolved, That a committee of *fifteen* be appointed to take into consideration the present state of the Church, and report a plan for its prompt pacification, upon such a basis as to preserve as far as practicable, in its new circumstances, its whole geographical extent and entire ecclesiastical organization.

Messrs. Breckinridge, Nott, Cooley, Culbertson, D. Elliott, Matthews, Preston, Dickson, Auchincloss, Denny, John Elliott, W. Maxwell, Bell, Rees, and J. Chamberlain were appointed this committee.

Overture No. 2 was taken up, and referred to the aforesaid Committee on the State of the Church.

The Moderator presented a letter from George Prince, relative to creeds and confessions, which was entered on the docket.

The Stated Clerk stated that he had transmitted certified copies of the injunction recorded on page 636 of the Minutes of the last Assembly, relative to the protest and creed of George Duffield and others (*Minutes*, pp. 631, 638), to their respective Presbyteries.

Inquiry was made whether the Presbyteries thus enjoined—viz. the Presbyteries of Wilmington, Union, Champlain, Troy, Newark, Abingdon, Alton, Ottawa, Detroit, Peoria, New York 3d, and Lewes—have obeyed the aforesaid injunction of the last Assembly.

No reply was received, except from the Presbytery of Abingdon.

On motion of Mr. Harding,

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to draft a pastoral letter to the churches under our care.

Messrs. Baxter, Green, J. Hoge, Witherspoon, and J. L. Montgomery were appointed this committee.

The Judicial Committee reported judicial business Nos. 1 and 2, viz.: No. 1, "A complaint against the Synod of Illinois, by W. J. Frazer, for certain doings of said Synod in his case;" and No. 2, "A complaint by S. Lowry and others against the Synod of Illinois"—and recommended that these complaints be severally taken up and acted on, according to the prescriptions of the Book of Discipline.

The report was accepted, and these cases were entered on the docket.

And then the Assembly adjourned till to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday morning, May 19th, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read.

The Permanent Clerk reported that the following papers had been placed

in his hands on yesterday, viz.: A protest and complaint of John Burtt and others against the Synod of Cincinnati; an appeal of Jacob Little and others against the Synod of Ohio; an appeal and complaint of Jonathan Cable and others against the Synod of Ohio; an appeal of Thomas H. Bushnell and James Young against the Synod of Ohio; a complaint of George Printz and others against the Synod of New Jersey.

These papers were referred to the Judicial Committee.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overtures Nos. 4, 5, 6, and 7, viz.:

No. 4. A memorial and petition from the Presbytery of Abingdon, in regard to their Synodical relation.

No. 5. Extracts from the records of the Second Presbytery of Philadelphia, relative to violations of the terms of correspondence between the General Assembly and the General Association of Massachusetts.

No. 6. Extracts from the records of the Presbytery of New York, relative to a violation of the terms of correspondence between the General Assembly and the General Association of Connecticut.

No. 7. A memorial of *eight* ministers and *nineteen* elders of the Synod of Illinois, relative to irregularities in that Synod.

These overtures were accepted, and Nos. 4, 5, and 6 were entered on the docket; No. 7 was referred to the Committee of *fifteen* on the State of the Church.

Overture No. 4 was taken up and read, and referred to the Committee on the State of the Church.

Mr. Breckinridge presented a paper in relation to Lane Seminary, and a petition from W. D. Snodgrass and others, members of the Presbytery of Troy. These papers were read, and referred to the Committee on the State of the Church.

Overture No. 5 was taken up, read, and referred to the Committee on the State of the Church.

Overture No. 6 was read, when,

On motion of Mr. Matthews, it was

Resolved, That a committee on the subject of correspondence with foreign bodies be appointed.

Messrs. Maclean, J. Hoge, MacMaster, Church, and Entrekin were appointed this committee.

Overture No. 6 was referred to this committee.

On motion of Mr. Blain, the reference of Overture No. 5 to the Committee on the State of the Church was reconsidered; and the overture was referred to the Committee on Correspondence with Foreign Bodies.

Judicial business No. 2 was taken up, and the papers in the case were read, and the case was laid on the table.

Judicial business No. 1 was taken up, and the papers in the case were read, and the case was laid on the table.

The complaint of members of the Synod of Illinois, referred from last year, was taken up, and referred to Messrs. Phillips, Breckinridge, Cleland, W. H. Lowrie, and Fitzgerald.

Judicial business Nos. 1 and 2, and all the papers, were referred to the above committee.

The report of Mr. Solomon Allen, on the subject of publishing the Assembly's Psalms and Hymns, was presented, read, accepted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix.

The Stated Clerk reported that one hundred copies of the Minutes of the General Association of Massachusetts had been presented to him, for the use of the Assembly. These Minutes were distributed among the members.

The committee appointed to examine into a supposed discrepancy between

the printed and manuscript Minutes of the General Assembly of 1837 made a report, which was read, accepted, amended, and adopted, and is as follows, viz.:

The committee have collated the original records as they were made by the Permanent Clerk, approved of by the Assembly, and put into the hands of the Committee of Revision, with the printed Minutes, and find the following omission in the latter, viz.:

A resolution offered by Mr. Ewing, to appoint a committee to confer with the officers of the Assembly, who compose the Committee of Commissions, to procure from them a pledge to carry out the action of the Assembly in their official character to its full accomplishment; which resolution was subsequently withdrawn, upon satisfactory statements before the Assembly, on the part of said officers, of their intention to do as the Assembly should direct them; which were also omitted in the printed Minutes.

Your committee impute no blame to the committee appointed by the Assembly to revise and prepare the minutes for publication on account of this omission, although they are of opinion that it would have been better to have published the entire record. To prevent future mistakes in this matter, your committee would recommend to the Assembly the adoption of the following resolution, viz.:

Resolved, That the records of the Assembly be published in all respects substantially as they are approved by that body, when submitted by the Permanent Clerk, and that in no case shall any erasure be made in the manuscript records, except by the express order of the Assembly itself.

Your committee would further recommend that the minutes be read and carefully corrected at the opening of each session of the Assembly, and that no subsequent revision or alteration be permitted, except by vote of the Assembly. Also, that the Stated Clerk be directed to record, on the transcribed minutes at their proper place, on interleaved blank pages, the whole of the omitted minutes alluded to in this report.

And then the Assembly adjourned till Monday morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday morning, May 21st, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

On motion, the roll was called.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Judicial Committee reported Judicial business Nos. 3, 4, and 5, viz.:

No. 3. The protest and complaint of Robert J. Breckinridge and others against the proceedings of the Synod of Philadelphia in relation to the Third Presbytery of Philadelphia.

No. 4. The protest and complaint of J. Campbell and others against a decision of the Synod of New Jersey.

No. 5. The appeal of A. G. Morss and others against the Synod of Philadelphia; and recommended that these cases be severally taken up and acted on, according to the prescriptions of the Book of Discipline.

The report was accepted, and Nos. 3 and 4 were entered on the docket; and it was

Resolved, That No. 5 be dismissed, and that the appellant have leave to withdraw his papers.

The annual report of the Directors of the Theological Seminary at Princeton was presented, read, accepted, and referred to Messrs. Phillips, Beatty, and Leavitt.

On motion,

Nominations of persons to fill the vacancies in the Boards of Directors of

the Theological Seminary at Princeton, and of the Western Theological Seminary, were made; and the election was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning, immediately after the reading of the minutes.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day, viz.: The appeal and complaint of certain persons claiming to be the church of St. Charles, against a decision of the Synod of Missouri that they are not the church of St. Charles. The Rev. Hiram Chamberlain appeared on behalf of the appellants; and no person appearing on behalf of the persons who were adjudged by the Synod to be the church of St. Charles, Mr. W. H. Lowrie was appointed to manage the case on their behalf.

The Moderator read the rule, reminding the members of their high character as a court of Jesus Christ, and of the solemn duty in which they are about to act.

A certified copy of the records of the Synod of Missouri relating to this case was produced by Mr. Chamberlain; and

The sentence of the Synod appealed from was read.

The reasons which were assigned by the appellants and complainants, and all the testimony in the case, were read.

And then the Assembly adjourned till this afternoon at half-past 3 o'clock.

Monday afternoon, half-past 3 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

A letter was received from "Thomas Bradford, President of the Board of Inspectors of the Eastern State Penitentiary of Pennsylvania," communicating the invitation of the Board to the members of the Assembly to visit that institution.

On motion,

Resolved, That the thanks of the Assembly be returned to the Board of Inspectors for their polite invitation, and that such members of the Assembly as may find it convenient to accept the invitation will visit the Penitentiary on Saturday afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Ordered, That the Permanent Clerk transmit a copy of the foregoing resolution to the President of the Board.

The annual report of the Board of Trustees of the Theological Seminary at Princeton was presented, read, and accepted, and it was

Resolved, That the Assembly approve the course pursued by the Trustees of the Theological Seminary at Princeton in regard to the decision of the Chancellor of the State of New Jersey, directing them to transfer the Mason Library and accompanying funds to the Associate Reformed Synod of New York.

Resolved, That the entire report be approved, and that the report and the accompanying documents be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes.

The unfinished business of this morning was resumed, viz.: The appeal of persons claiming to be the church at St. Charles; and

Mr. Chamberlain, on behalf of the appellants, was heard.

And then the Assembly adjourned till to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday morning, May 22d, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Moderator presented a letter from Frederick W. Porter, Corresponding Secretary of the American Sunday-School Union, inviting the Assembly to attend the anniversary of that society this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

On motion,

The Committee on the State of the Church had leave to retire, and to sit during the sessions of the House.

On motion,

Inquiry was made whether the Synods and Presbyteries have complied with the injunction of the last Assembly (*Minutes*, p. 638) concerning abbreviated creeds, etc.

Reports were received from the Synods of Albany and New Jersey.

On motion,

These reports were referred to the Committee on the State of the Church.

The Assembly proceeded to the orders of the day, viz.: the election of persons to fill vacancies in the Boards of Directors of the Theological Seminary at Princeton, and of the Western Theological Seminary; and Messrs. Huntington, Bristol, and Agnew were appointed a committee to receive and count the votes for Directors of the Princeton Seminary, and Messrs. Grundy, D. H. Hoge, and Clarke were appointed a committee to receive and count the votes for Directors of the Western Seminary.

The order of the day—viz. the complaint of the Presbytery of Wilmington—was postponed; and

The Assembly resumed the unfinished business of yesterday—viz. the appeal of persons claiming to be the church at St. Charles.

Mr. W. H. Lowrie was heard on the behalf of the appellees.

The original parties having been fully heard,

The business was laid on the table.

The committee to receive and count the ballots for persons to fill the vacancies in the Board of Directors of the Theological Seminary at Princeton, reported, when it appeared that the following were elected for three years, viz.:

MINISTERS.

William W. Phillips, D. D.,
Ashbel Green, D. D.,
Henry A. Boardman,
Joseph Campbell, D. D.,
John Johnston,
Nicholas Murray,
Asa Hilyer, D. D.

ELDERS.

Alexander Henry,
Moses Allen,
James Lenox.

The committee to receive and count the ballots for persons to fill the vacancies in the Board of Directors of the Western Theological Seminary, reported; when it appeared that the following were elected for three years, viz.:

MINISTERS.

Samuel Ralston, D. D.,
Robert Johnston,
William Jeffrey,
C. C. Beatty,
Samuel M'Farren,
Loyal Young,
George Marshall.

ELDERS.

Harmer Denny,
Alexander Sample,
H. H. Leavitt.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 8—viz. respecting the duty of congregations in reference to their charters.

The overture was entered on the docket.

The Committee on Overture No. 1 made a report, which was accepted, and laid on the table.

And then the Assembly adjourned till to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday morning, May 23d, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Assembly resumed the unfinished business of yesterday—viz. the appeal of persons claiming to be the church of St. Charles.

No person appeared on behalf of the Synod of Missouri, and

All the parties, having been fully heard, withdrew.

The calling of the roll, in order that every member might express his opinion on the case, was begun, and after some progress,

On motion,

The case was laid on the table.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day—viz. the devotional exercises prescribed by a standing rule of the Assembly.

The devotional exercises were attended to in the order prescribed.

After which,

The Committee of Bills and Overtures reported Overtures Nos. 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, viz.:

No. 9. A communication from the Synod of Genesee, formerly in our connection, on the subject of the proceedings of the last Assembly with regard to that Synod.

No. 10. A memorial from the Synod of Kentucky, on the subject of sending missionaries to Texas.

No. 11. A memorial from certain members of the Presbytery of Cincinnati.

No. 12. A communication from the Presbytery of Huron, belonging to the Synod of the Western Reserve, formerly in our connection.

No. 13. A communication from the Presbytery of Richland in respect to religious newspapers.

The overtures were accepted, and Nos. 9, 11, and 12 were referred to the Committee on the State of the Church.

No. 10 was referred to Messrs. Price, Stedman, and Cooper.

No. 13 was entered on the docket.

The Committee on the report of the Directors of the Theological Seminary at Princeton, made a report, which was accepted and unanimously adopted, and is as follows, viz.:

That the report be approved, and that the following resolutions be adopted by the Assembly:

1. *Resolved*, That Section 10 of Article VI., be so amended as to read as follows, viz.: "There shall be two vacations in the Seminary in every year, one in the spring, of six weeks', and the other in the autumn, of eight weeks' continuance; each to commence at such times as the Board of Directors may determine.

2. *Resolved*, That Section 7, of Article II., requiring the whole plan of the Seminary to be read before the Board at the commencement of each stated spring meeting, be, and the same is, hereby rescinded.

3. *Resolved*, That the salary of Professor J. Addison Alexander be raised to \$1500 per annum.

4. *Resolved*, That the Trustees of the Theological Seminary at Princeton be authorized to draw from the Treasurer of the Trustees of the General Assembly the sum of \$7300 for the payment of professors' salaries through the current year.

And then the Assembly adjourned till this afternoon at half-past 3 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday afternoon, May 23d, half-past 3 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

On motion,

The reception of reports of committees on Synodical records was made the order of the day for Saturday morning next.

The Assembly resumed the unfinished business of this morning—viz. the appeal of persons claiming to be the church of St. Charles. The calling of the roll was concluded.

Resolved, That the General Assembly hereby sustains the appeal, *pro forma*, and orders the entire setting aside of all the proceedings in the whole case, in all its stages, from the time that the notice was first given to call a meeting of the congregation for the election of the three elders; and directs all the parties to stand precisely where they did before any step was taken in it.

The Committee to confer with the Boards of Missions and of Education reported in part; and their report was accepted, and adopted, and is as follows, viz. :

That the Board of Education make their report to the Assembly to-morrow morning, at 10 o'clock; the Board of Missions immediately afterward; and the Board of Foreign Missions to-morrow afternoon, at 4 o'clock.

Mr. W. Maxwell moved a series of resolutions in relation to the members concerned in the disorders which attended the opening of the Assembly, and after debate the resolutions were made the order of the day for to-morrow morning, immediately after the reading of the minutes.

And then the Assembly adjourned till 9 o'clock to-morrow morning for the purpose of affording the members an opportunity of attending the anniversary of the Board of Domestic Missions this evening.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday morning, May 24th, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day—viz. the resolutions offered by Mr. W. Maxwell at the last session; and after debate, the resolutions were unanimously adopted, and are as follows, viz. :

1. *Resolved*, That those Commissioners to the General Assembly—viz. William Patton, D. D., Erskine Mason, D. D., Rev. John P. Cleaveland, Nathan S. S. Beman, D. D., and others—who, according to order and usage, had presented their commissions to the Permanent and Stated Clerks prior to the meeting of the body on Thursday last, the 17th instant; and afterward, on that day, while the House was organizing, and the Clerks, under the direction of the Moderator presiding, were actually engaged in completing the roll, interrupted the progress of the regular proceedings by combining with certain other persons present, unknown to the General Assembly, in openly forming another body which they call the General Assembly, and subsequently, voluntarily, and without leave asked or obtained, left the house to convene in the First Presbyterian Church in this city,—in so doing, committed an act, which, however, indeed, can only be considered as a plain and palpable violation of order and decorum, and in derogation of the duty which they owed to the House, to the Church, and to the cause of Christ.

2. *Resolved*, That by their said conduct, and by their subsequently neglecting to attend the sessions of the General Assembly since that day, and at the same time notoriously attending the sessions of another body, convening from day to day in the First Presbyterian Church, calling itself the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, the said Commissioners appear to have willfully and deliberately vacated their seats in this House, the only true and proper General Assembly of the Presby-

terian Church in the United States of America, and to have originated and organized a schismatical secession from the body to which they belonged.

3. *Resolved*, That the names of the said Commissioners be now called and recorded, in order that they may be reported to the Presbyteries of which they are members, respectively.

The roll was then called, and the following names were recorded, agreeably to the foregoing resolution:

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
<i>Newburyport,</i>	Daniel T. Smith.	
<i>Troy,</i>	Nathan S. S. Beeman, D. D., N. M. Masters.	
	Samuel T. Spear.	
<i>Columbia,</i>	Augustus L. Chapin,	Lawrence Vandyke.
	Jared B. Waterbury,	Frederick Tyler.
<i>North River,</i>		Aaron Raymond.
<i>New York (3d),</i>	Erskine Mason, D. D.,	Robert M. Hartley.
	William Patton, D. D.,	Daniel Pierson.
<i>Newark,</i>	Samuel Fisher, D. D.,	Israel Crane.
	William R. Weeks, D. D.,	Obadiah Woodruff.
<i>Montrose,</i>		Isaac P. Foster.
<i>Wilmingon,</i>	Eliphalet W. Gilbert,	Willard Hall.
<i>Lewes,</i>		Simon K. Wilson.
<i>Erie,</i>	Pierce Chamberlin,	George Kellogg.
<i>Detroit,</i>	John P. Cleaveland.	
<i>St. Joseph,</i>	Silas Woodbury,	A. G. Hammond.
<i>Monroe,</i>	Erastus N. Nichols,	Henry Disbrow.
<i>Athens,</i>	Luther G. Bingham,	Marcus Bosworth.
<i>Marion,</i>	Henry Van Deman,	S. G. Strong.
<i>Cincinnati,</i>	Lyman Beecher, D. D.,	George L. Weed.
	Baxter Dickinson,	John Q. A. Bassett.
<i>Crawfordsville,</i>	Samuel G. Lowry,	John S. Jennings.
<i>Illinois,</i>	Edward Beecher,	A. H. Burritt.
<i>Sangamon,</i>	Cyrus L. Watson.	
<i>Ottawa,</i>	John Blatchford.	
<i>Peoria,</i>	Flavel Bascom,	Charles Barrows.
<i>Alton,</i>	Albert Hale.	
<i>St. Louis,</i>		James M. Covington.
<i>St. Charles,</i>		Alexander J. Dallas.
<i>District of Columbia.</i>		
<i>Union,</i>	J. E. Montgomery,	Walter M. M'Gill.
	Levi R. Morrison,	Andrew Early.
<i>French Broad,</i>	Gideon S. White,	William Dick.
<i>Holston,</i>	Daniel Rogan,	John Patton.
<i>Clinton,</i>	A. C. Dickerson,	William M. Murdock.

The Committee on the State of the Church made a report, which was read, accepted, and made the order of the day for Monday next, at 9 o'clock.

On motion,

Ordered, That 500 copies of the above report be printed for the use of the House.

On motion,

The Committee on the State of the Church were discharged from the further consideration of certain papers referred to them, and which they laid on the table.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave

to Dr. Nott conditionally, and to Mr. H. Rankin. The report was accepted and approved.

On motion,

The orders of the day were postponed, and made orders for this afternoon, as follows: viz. the report of the Board of Education at half-past 3 o'clock, and the report of the Board of Missions immediately after the report of the Board of Foreign Missions.

And then the Assembly adjourned till this afternoon at half-past 3 o'clock. Concluded with prayer.

Thursday afternoon, half-past 3 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Assembly proceeded to the orders of the day, as follows, viz.:

The annual report of the Board of Education was presented, read, accepted, approved, and referred to the Board for publication.

On motion,

Resolved, That the standing order of the Assembly, requiring the Board of Education to submit a statistical table of the names of the beneficiaries, the sums allowed to the several beneficiaries, etc., be rescinded.

The first annual report of the Board of Foreign Missions was presented, read, accepted, approved, and referred to the Board for publication.

The annual report of the Board of Missions was presented, read, accepted, approved, and referred to the Board for publication.

On motion,

The election for persons to fill vacancies in the Boards of Education, of Missions, and of Foreign Missions was made the order of the day for to-morrow afternoon at half-past 3 o'clock.

On motion,

Nominations were made to fill the vacancies in the Board of Education and the Board of Missions.

On motion,

Resolved, That the Constitution of the Board of Foreign Missions be so altered as to make the number of members 120 instead of 80.

On motion,

Messrs. Phillips, N. G. White, Gray, M'Corkle, and Lagow were appointed a committee to nominate persons to fill the vacancies in the Board of Foreign Missions.

The committee to whom was referred the complaints of the minority of the Synod of Illinois, and also of Rev. William J. Frazer, against the decisions of the Synod of Illinois in 1836, 1837, by which they censure the Presbytery of Kaskaskia for receiving the said Rev. William J. Frazer to membership, and refused him a seat in the Synod, made a report, recommending that the papers be read, and that the following resolutions be adopted, viz.:

1. *Resolved*, That the complaint be sustained, and the act of the Synod in refusing a seat to Mr. Frazer be reversed.

2. *Resolved*, That the Rev. W. J. Frazer is a member, in good and regular standing, of the Presbytery of Kaskaskia.

The report was accepted and adopted.

The committee to whom was referred the reports from the several Presbyteries on the overture of the last Assembly (*Minutes*, p. 647), to alter the Constitution so as to empower the Synods to issue appeals, etc., except in certain cases, reported that they have received official reports from *thirty-seven* Presbyteries, of which *nineteen* are in favor of the proposed alteration, and *eighteen* against it; and as there are one hundred and eight Presbyteries composing the Presbyterian Church, it will require the vote of *fifty-five* Pres-

byteries to effect the proposed alteration. The committee recommend that, in the existing state of the Church, this subject be dismissed.

The report was accepted, and the recommendation was adopted.

The Moderator announced that copies of the Minutes of the General Association of Connecticut had been presented for the use of the Assembly. These Minutes were distributed to the members.

And then the Assembly adjourned till to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday morning, May 25th, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last two sessions were read and approved.

The Committee of Commissions reported an additional Commissioner—viz. John Green, ruling elder from the Presbytery of Transylvania, who, having been enrolled, appeared and took his seat.

The Treasurer of the Trustees of the General Assembly presented their annual report, and laid their book of accounts on the table.

The report was accepted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the Minutes.

The Stated Clerk, from the committee appointed by the last Assembly (*Minutes*, p. 622) to prepare an overture to be reported to this Assembly in relation to the ratio of representation to the General Assembly reported, that in the present state of the Church it is inexpedient to propose any change in said ratio.

The report was accepted, and referred to the Committee on the State of the Church.

The Judicial Committee reported judicial business Nos. 6, 7, and 8, viz.: No. 6, "Appeal and Complaint of Jonathan Cable, Jacob Little, and others against a decision of the Synod of Ohio;" No. 7, "A Complaint of certain members of the Presbytery of Susquehanna against a decision of the Synod of New Jersey;" No. 8, "The Protest and Complaint of the Minority of the Synod of Cincinnati against several decisions of said Synod, in October, 1837," and recommended that Nos. 6 and 8 be taken up and acted on agreeably to the prescriptions of the Book of Discipline; and that No. 7 be referred to a special committee.

The report was accepted, and the recommendation in respect to Nos. 6 and 7 was adopted; and

On motion,

No. 6 was entered on the docket.

No. 7 was referred to Messrs. Phillips, J. D. Ewing, and Leavitt; and

No. 8 was referred to the Committee on the State of the Church.

The annual report of Joseph Whetham, in relation to the arranged edition of the Assembly's Psalms and Hymns, was presented. The report was read, accepted, and referred to Messrs. J. Hoge, Bond, and W. Maxwell.

On motion,

Mr. Symington was appointed chairman of the Committee on Mileage, in place of Mr. H. Rankin.

On motion,

Overture No. 13 was taken up, and referred to Messrs. Culbertson, Lapsley, and W. King.

The committee to confer with the Boards of the Church made a report, which was read, accepted, amended, and adopted, as follows, viz.:

The committee appointed to propose suitable arrangements for the reception of the annual reports of the several Boards by which the Church executes her benevolent purposes, have carefully considered the subject, and

deeming it very important to give due prominence to those operations, and both to enlighten and interest the public mind respecting them, submit for the consideration of the Assembly the following resolutions, viz.:

1. The General Assembly will receive the report of each Board in a public meeting, of which due notice shall be given, and in which addresses shall be delivered.

2. These meetings, until otherwise ordered, shall be held on the first Tuesday forenoon and the following days of the sessions of the Assembly, at 10 o'clock, A. M.; and the Executive Committee of each Board shall be authorized to make all the appointments and arrangements that shall be necessary.

On motion,

Resolved, That the standing order respecting devotional exercises in which the Assembly annually engages be so altered that the *afternoon* of the first Wednesday of the sessions be devoted to this purpose.

On motion,

Resolved, That it be the order of the day for Tuesday next, at 10 o'clock, A. M., to engage in free conversation and prayer in regard to the causes of Education and of Domestic and Foreign Missions.

A letter was received from Rev. Hiram Chamberlain, requesting copies of certain papers.

On motion,

Resolved, That Mr. Chamberlain have leave to withdraw all the papers submitted and used by him in conducting the appeal of persons claiming to be the church of St. Charles.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures reported Overtures Nos. 14 and 15, viz.:

No. 14. A minute on the subject of Tracts and Sunday-school books, and

No. 15. An overture relative to an alteration of the time of holding the Monthly Concert of Prayer.

The report was accepted; and on motion No. 14 was adopted, and is as follows, viz.:

Whereas, Sabbath-school and Tract publications cannot fail to exert a very great influence upon the growth of our Church and country; and *whereas*, it is the duty of the highest judicatory of the Church to exercise such a supervision over this subject as will secure the diffusion of sound and scriptural principles, for "the promotion of charity, truth, and holiness" through all the churches under our care; therefore,

Resolved, 1. That the General Assembly will superintend and conduct, by its own proper authority, the work of furnishing the churches under its care with suitable Tract and Sabbath-school publications, by a Board appointed for that purpose and directly amenable to said Assembly.

2. The General Assembly shall, at its present meeting, choose *forty* ministers and *forty* laymen as members of the Tract and Sabbath-school Board, one-fourth part of whom shall go out annually, in alphabetical order; and thereafter ten ministers and ten laymen shall be annually elected as members of the Tract and Sabbath-school Board, whose term of office shall be four years; and these *forty* ministers and *forty* laymen so appointed shall constitute a Board, to be styled "The Board of Publication of Tracts and Sabbath-school Books of the General Assembly in the United States of America," to which for the time being shall be entrusted, under such directions and instructions as may from time to time be given by the General Assembly, the superintendence of all the operations of the Presbyterian Church in relation to the subject of Tracts and Sabbath-school books. The Board shall make annually to the General Assembly a report of their pro-

ceedings, and submit for its approval such plans and measures as shall be deemed useful and necessary.

3. The Board of Managers shall hold their first meeting at such time and place as may be directed by the present General Assembly, and shall hold a meeting annually at some convenient time during the sessions of the General Assembly, at which time it shall appoint a President, Vice-President, a Corresponding Secretary, a Treasurer, and an Executive Committee, to serve for the ensuing year. It shall belong to the Board of Managers to review and decide upon all the doings of the Executive Committee; to receive and dispose of their annual report, and to present any statement of their proceedings which they may judge proper and necessary to the General Assembly. It shall be their duty also to meet for the transaction of business as often as may be expedient, due notice of every special meeting being seasonably given to every member of the Board.

4. To the Executive Committee, consisting of not more than nine members besides the Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer, shall belong the duty of selecting and preparing suitable tracts and books for publication; of superintending and directing their distribution; of receiving the reports of the Corresponding Secretary, and giving him needful directions in reference to matters of business and correspondence entrusted to him; of authorizing all appropriations of money; and of taking the particular direction and management of the whole subject of Tract and Sunday-school publications, subject to the control and direction of the Board of Managers. The Executive Committee shall meet at least once a month, and oftener if necessary; five members, meeting at the time and place of adjournment or special call, shall constitute a quorum, except that the approval of a majority of the whole committee shall be necessary to direct the publication of any tract or book. The committee shall have power to fill their own vacancies, if any occur, during the recess of the Board.

5. All property, houses, lands, tenements, and permanent funds belonging to the said Tract and Sabbath-school Board shall be taken in the name of the Trustees of the General Assembly, and held in trust by them for the use and benefit of "The Board of Publication of Tracts and Sabbath-school Books of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America," for the time being.

6. The seat of operations of the Board of Managers shall be in the city of Philadelphia.

7. The Board of Managers shall have power, and they are hereby authorized, to receive a transfer of "The Presbyterian Tract and Sabbath-school Book Society," now under the care of the Synod of Philadelphia, with all the tracts, books, and funds belonging to said Society.

On motion,

Ordered, That hereafter, in transcribing for record and in printing the Minutes of the General Assembly, the names of all the Commissioners recognized during the whole sessions be inserted, for the sake of convenience, opposite to their respective Presbyteries, in the roll reported by the Committee of Commissions; and that to the names of Commissioners reported and enrolled subsequently to the presentation of the report of the committee upon which the House is organized, figures be prefixed to designate the day on which such Commissioners were enrolled and took their seats.

And then the Assembly adjourned till this afternoon at half-past 3 o'clock.
Concluded with prayer.

Friday afternoon, half-past 3 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

On motion,

Messrs. Pelton, Moore, Matthews, Cooper, and W. L. Davidson were appointed a committee to nominate Directors for the "Board of Publication of Tracts and Sunday-school Books."

On motion,

Overture No. 15 was accepted, and entered on the docket.

The Assembly proceeded to the orders of the day—viz. the election of persons to fill vacancies in the Boards of Education, of Missions, and of Foreign Missions; when, on motion, the election of Directors for the Board of Foreign Missions was postponed, and made the order for to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock; and Messrs. Swan, J. L. R. Davies, and Venable were appointed to receive and count the ballots for the Directors of the Board of Education, and Messrs. Hurd, Bellville, and I. N. Beach to receive and count the ballots for the Directors for the Board of Missions.

The committee to nominate persons to fill vacancies in the Board of Foreign Missions reported; and their report was accepted and amended, and laid on the table.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 16—viz. "Overtures from the Presbytery of Charleston Union and the Synod of South Carolina and Georgia on the subject of slavery," and recommended that they be received and laid on the table without debate. The report was accepted, and adopted.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 17—viz. "On the subject of contributions;" accepted, and entered on the docket.

On motion,

Resolved, That the Assembly will this year go into an election for Trustees of the General Assembly, and that the election be made the order of the day for Tuesday afternoon at half-past 3 o'clock.

The committee to receive and count the ballots for persons to fill vacancies in the Board of Education, reported; when it appeared that the following were elected for four years, viz.:

MINISTERS.

Samuel Miller, D. D.,
Joseph H. Jones,
Francis Herron, D. D.,
Cornelius C. Cuyler, D. D.,
Henry A. Boardman,
Francis M'Farland,
William B. Sprague, D. D.,
William M. Engles.

LAYMEN.

William Maxwell,
Stephen Colwell,
Thomas Bradford,
William Brown,
James Lenox,
John J. Bryant,
James Schott,
James M. Dickson,
George Morris.

The committee to receive and count the ballots for persons to fill vacancies in the Board of Missions reported; when it appeared that the following were elected for four years, viz.:

MINISTERS.

James Hoge, D. D.,
Francis M'Farland,
John Gray,
George A. Baxter, D. D.,

LAYMEN.

Matthew Newkirk,
Samuel Thompson,
George Morris,
Robert Wallace,

MINISTERS.

William S. Plumer,
Cornelius C. Cuyler, D. D.,
Henry A. Boardman,
Joseph H. Jones,
David Magie,
I. W. Candee.

LAYMEN.

William Shear,
Thomas Henderson.
—
And for Two Years,
D. C. Campbell.

On motion of Dr. Witherspoon,

Resolved, That at the opening of the daily morning sessions of this body a portion of the sacred Scriptures be read, attended by singing the praises of God, as well as prayer, which has been our ordinary custom.

On motion,

Overture No. 8 was taken up, and adopted, and is as follows, viz. :

Considering that it is necessary to the due and orderly maintenance of the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church in its various provisions that care be taken, in obtaining legal enactments of a secular kind, that they be so formed as not to come in conflict with any such provisions; and whereas, it is known that instances have existed, and probably do still exist, in which the charters of churches, and perhaps other legal instruments, are so framed that the laws of the Church and the laws of the land are not reconcilable with each other; therefore,

Resolved, That the General Assembly earnestly recommend it to all the congregations under their supervision that in resorting to the legislatures or tribunals of our country they use the utmost care to ask nothing which, if granted, will in any respect contravene the principles or order of our Church, and in any cases in which civil enactments, heretofore obtained, do militate with any of the principles or order of our Church, they endeavor, as soon as possible, to obtain the repeal or modification of such enactments, so as to make them consistent with the ecclesiastical order and principles of the Presbyterian Church.

On motion,

Judicial business No. 4—viz. "The complaint and appeal of J. Campbell and others against the Synod of New Jersey"—was taken up, and dismissed for want of prosecution.

The committee to whom was referred judicial business No. 7—viz. "The complaint of members of the Presbytery of Susquehanna, against the Synod of New Jersey"—reported, recommending that the case be dismissed, for want of prosecution. The report was accepted, and laid on the table.

On motion,

Overture No. 14 was taken up, read, and laid on the table.

On motion,

The appeal of Joseph C. Harrison was taken up, and all the parties—viz. Mr. Breekinridge, appointed by the last Assembly to manage the case on behalf of Mr. Harrison; Dr. Joshua L. Wilson, on behalf of the complainants; and Mr. Cleland, appointed by this Assembly to defend the Synod of Cincinnati—by common consent requested the Assembly to enter up the following as the final minute in the case, viz. :

The complaint shall be sustained, *pro forma*, with the knowledge on the part of the Assembly that Mr. Harrison is now a member of a Presbytery in Kentucky, and that no principle involved in the case is considered decided by the Assembly.

And then the Assembly adjourned till to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday morning, May 26th, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with reading the Scriptures, singing, and prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day; and

The committees on the records of the Synods of Albany, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Kentucky, and Virginia respectively reported, recommending that these records be approved. The reports were severally accepted and adopted.

The committees on the records of the Synods of New Jersey, Michigan, Cincinnati, Illinois, Missouri, North Carolina, Tennessee, Alabama, and Mississippi respectively reported that these records had not been put into their hands; the reports were severally accepted, and the committees discharged.

The committee on the records of the Synod of West Tennessee, reported, recommending that the records be approved with the following exceptions, viz.: 1st, that at page 131 the Synod did not call an elder to assign reasons for tardiness; 2d, on page 136, in reference to the boundary of New Hope church; 3d, no Presbyterian reports for 1836; and 4th, on page 136, a judgment of the Synod involving important principles on the subject of temperance, to settle which may consume more time than the Assembly can now devote to the subject, and therefore that the Assembly pass over this subject without expressing an opinion on its merits. The report was accepted and adopted.

The committee on the records of the Synod of South Carolina and Georgia reported, recommending that the records be approved, with the following exception—viz. that the records are closed, page 495, without any record of adjournment or of having concluded with prayer, but signed by the Moderator and Clerks.

The report was accepted and adopted.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Indiana reported, recommending that the records be approved, with the exception of minutes on pages 410, 420, and 422, where it is stated that an elder appeared late in the sessions and took his seat, without any notice of reasons given or asked for his not attending sooner.

The report was accepted and adopted.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day—viz. the election to fill vacancies in the Board of Foreign Missions. Messrs. Hawthorn, Sheddan, and Johnson were appointed a committee to receive and count the ballots.

On motion of Mr. Maclean,

Resolved, That the American Sunday-School Union have leave to address the Assembly for thirty minutes at 10 o'clock on Wednesday morning next.

On motion of Mr. R. G. Thompson,

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk be directed to have published as speedily as it can be done all the minutes of the supreme judicatory of the Presbyterian Church from its origin in the United States, provided it can be done without involving the funds of the Assembly in any expense; and that Dr. Green, Dr. J. M'Dowell, and Rev. Henry A. Boardman be a committee to decide whether selections should not be made from some other papers than the records of the Church, to be printed with them; and if so, to make such selections.

On motion,

Resolved, That judicial business No. 8—viz. "the Protest and Complaint of the Minority of the Synod of Cincinnati against several decisions of said Synod in October, 1837," which was referred to the Committee on the State

of the Church, and is among the papers returned to the Assembly by that committee—be taken up, and acted on according to the prescriptions in the Book of Discipline.

On motion,

Resolved, That the further consideration of the above case be referred to the next General Assembly.

The Committee to receive and count the ballots for Directors for the Board of Foreign Missions reported; and it appeared that the following were elected, viz.:

For Four Years.

MINISTERS.

A. Alexander, D. D.,
W. M. Atkinson,
John C. Backus,
Thomas D. Baird,
George A. Baxter, D. D.,
Henry A. Boardman,
John Breckinridge, D. D.,
Robert J. Breckinridge,
Matthew Brown, D. D.,
John N. Campbell, D. D.,
Henry R. Weed,
A. Williamson,
Henry R. Wilson,
Samuel B. Wilson, D. D.,
Samuel G. Winchester.

LAYMEN.

James Adger,
James Agnew,
Moses Allen,
Solomon Allen,
Samuel C. Anderson,
Hugh Auchincloss,
Samuel Boyd,
George Brown,
Charles Chauncey,
Harmer Denny,
I. Parks,
William Shear,
P. C. Venable, M. D.,
William Walker, M. D.,
Edgar C. Wilson.

For Three Years.

James Linn,
Daniel M'Kinley,
I. B. Patterson,
Horace S. Pratt,
W. D. Snodgrass, D. D.

S. Winfree,
William Maxwell,
James Meek,
A. W. Mitchell, M. D.,
——— Montgomery,

For Two Years.

T. L. Janeway,
George W. Janvier,
John Johnston,
Robert Johnston,
Joseph H. Jones.

D. C. Campbell,
James Cooper,
John Henderson,
J. G. Lowry,
William M'Elwain, M. D.

For One Year.

J. Chamberlain, D. D.,
Charles Cummings, D. D.,
S. S. Davis,
John M. Dickey,
S. Doak.

Robert Archer, M. D.,
——— Bardwell, M. D.,
William Blake,
N. Brewster,
J. J. Bryant.

On motion,

The report of the committee on Overture No. 1 was taken up and adopted, as follows, viz.:

Resolved, That in the present state of the Church it is inexpedient to rescind the resolution adopted by the last Assembly which makes it imperative on Presbyteries to examine ministers applying to them for admission.

On motion,

The resolution from the convention relative to the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions was taken up, and referred to the Committee on Correspondence with Foreign Bodies.

On motion,

Overture No. 17 was taken up, amended, and adopted, and is as follows, viz. :

Whereas, It is highly desirable that the statistical reports of the General Assembly in reference to the subject of contributions should be, as far as practicable, in strict accordance with matter of fact; therefore,

1. *Resolved*, That the Presbyteries be directed hereafter to embrace in their reports *only* such contributions as fall under the control of the Church, or may be made for institutions and objects directed or approved by this Assembly and sustaining its great designs.

2. *Resolved*, That the Stated Clerk be directed to prepare the Statistical Report so as to make separate columns for Foreign Missions, Domestic Missions, Education, the Tract and Sunday-school Board, and one for other objects.

And then the Assembly adjourned till Monday morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday morning, May 28th, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with reading the Scriptures, singing, and prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day—viz. the report of the Committee on the State of the Church.

On motion,

Section 1 of Act I. was considered, amended, and agreed to; and Section 2 was amended and agreed to, and incorporated with Section 1.

On motion,

Section 3, now Section 2, of Act I. was considered, amended, and agreed to.

And then the Assembly adjourned till this afternoon at half-past 3 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday afternoon, half-past 3 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Assembly resumed the unfinished business of this morning—viz. the report of the Committee on the State of the Church.

On motion,

Section 4, now Section 3, of Act I. was considered, and agreed to.

On motion,

Section 5, now Section 4, was considered, amended, and agreed to.

On motion,

Section 6, now Section 5, was considered, amended, and agreed to.

On motion,

Section 7, now Section 6, was considered and agreed to.

On motion,

Section 8, now Section 7, was considered and agreed to.

On motion,

Section 2 was reconsidered and amended.

It was moved, further, to amend Section 2, and after debate,

The Assembly adjourned till 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday morning, May 29th, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with reading the Scriptures, singing, and prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee of Mileage reported that there has been paid into the Commissioners' Fund the sum of five hundred and fifty-two dollars and twenty-eight cents; that the number of miles travelled reported to them by Commissioners is six thousand nine hundred and twenty, which, at seven cents and nine mills per mile, amount to five hundred and forty-six dollars and sixty-eight cents, for which sum the committee recommend that the Trustees of the General Assembly be directed to draw an order on their Treasurer.

The report was accepted and adopted.

The committee to nominate Directors for the Board of Publication of Tracts and Sabbath-school Books, made a report, which was accepted and adopted, and is as follows, viz.:

MINISTERS.

John H. Church, D. D.,
 John N. Campbell, D. D.,
 William Blain,
 William W. Phillips, D. D.,
 George Potts,
 John M. Krebs,
 Nicholas Murray,
 Samuel Miller, D. D.,
 A. Alexander, D. D.,
 John Gray,
 A. Green, D. D.,
 William M. Engles,
 H. A. Boardman,
 C. C. Cuyler, D. D.,
 Joseph H. Jones,
 R. J. Breckinridge,
 Joshua Moore,
 G. W. Musgrave,
 Charles C. Beatty,
 D. Elliott, D. D.,
 James Culbertson,
 James Hoge, D. D.,
 Joshua L. Wilson, D. D.,
 John L. Belville,
 William C. Matthews,
 James W. McKennan,
 Benjamin F. Spilman,
 William K. Stewart,
 W. L. Breckinridge,
 Andrew Todd,
 William S. Plumer,
 S. B. Wilson, D. D.,
 James Morrison,
 William M'Pheeters, D. D.,
 John T. Edgar, D. D.,
 J. Witherspoon, D. D.,
 John Le Roy Davies,

LAYMEN.

Ananias Platt,
 H. Auchincloss,
 Henry Rankin,
 Robert Jaffray,
 James Lenox,
 Thomas M'Keen,
 William Wilson,
 John T. Woodhull,
 A. W. Mitchell, M. D.,
 Alexander Symington,
 Solomon Allen,
 Joseph B. Mitchell,
 James Russell,
 John Stillé,
 M. Newkirk,
 George Morris,
 H. Denny,
 H. H. Leavitt,
 N. Ewing,
 John C. Stockton,
 James Johnson,
 John Mollyneaux,
 Victor King,
 James M. Rea,
 W. A. G. Posey,
 Ebenezer Flinn,
 Abijah Bayless,
 James Weir,
 P. C. Venable, M. D.,
 J. B. Martin,
 J. W. Paine,
 Robert H. Burton,
 Robert H. M'Ewen,
 Joseph Biggar,
 D. C. Campbell,
 John R. Witherspoon,
 Thomas Henderson,

MINISTERS.

Thomas S. Witherspoon,
Samuel G. Winchester,
A. B. Lawrence.

LAYMEN.

Robert H. M'Nair,
Thomas Franklin,
P. A. Walker.

The Assembly resumed the unfinished business of yesterday—viz. the report of the Committee on the State of the Church—and

Section 2 of Act II. was further amended, and agreed to.

On motion,

Act I., as amended, was agreed to.

It was moved to adopt Section 1 of Act II., and after debate,

The Assembly adjourned till this afternoon at half-past 3 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday afternoon, half-past 3 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Committee of Commissions reported two additional Commissioners—viz. Rev. William W. Martin and Mr. Henry L. Fabrigue, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Salem, who were enrolled and took their seats.

On motion,

The order of the day—viz. the election of Trustees of the General Assembly—was postponed till to-morrow afternoon at half-past 3 o'clock.

The Assembly resumed the unfinished business of this morning—viz. the report of the Committee on the State of the Church—and

Section 1 of Act II. was amended and agreed to.

On motion,

Section 2 was considered and agreed to.

On motion,

Section 3 was considered, amended, and agreed to.

The preamble of Act II. was considered, amended, and agreed to, and

Act II., as amended and agreed to, was adopted.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave of absence to Mr. Fitzgerald. The report was accepted and approved.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures reported Overtures Nos. 18 and 19, viz.:

No. 18. On the subject of circulating the acts of this Assembly.

No. 19. A minute on the subject of reform in doctrine, order, and discipline.

The report was accepted, and the overtures were entered on the docket.

And then the Assembly adjourned till 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday morning, May 30th, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with reading the Scriptures, singing, and prayer.

The minutes of the last two sessions were read and approved.

The Committee of Commissions reported an additional Commissioner—viz. Mr. Aaron W. Lyon, a ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Arkansas, who was enrolled and took his seat.

It was moved that this Assembly be dissolved to-morrow evening.

On motion,

The resolution was laid on the table.

On motion of Dr. Hoge,

The following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted, viz.:

For the purpose of preventing any misconception of the intention of the

Assembly in adopting the report of the committee on the omission of certain minutes of the last Assembly, and supplying a defect in that report, it is

Resolved, 1. That neither the Committee of Revision nor the Stated Clerk is blamed, nor is any imputation cast upon them directly or indirectly, as it is believed that all concerned acted conscientiously, according to their views of duty, and the Assembly cherish undiminished confidence in the ability and fidelity of the Stated Clerk.

2. That the minute omitted is hereto attached, and directed to be published in the Minutes of this Assembly.

It is as follows:

[Mr. Ewing offered the following resolution, viz.:

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to confer with the officers of the Assembly who compose the Committee of Commissions, and to obtain and communicate to this body their explicit promise or refusal to carry out, in all its parts, the reform entered upon during our present sessions, by the full and exact performance, on their part, as ministerial officers of this body, of all the duties, either expressly directed or necessarily implied by the action of the Assembly, for the purification of the Church, and which are required in giving entire efficacy to its acts, in all their parts, and especially in completing the roll of the next and subsequent Assemblies. After debate,

The Assembly adjourned till this afternoon at half-past 3 o'clock.

Tuesday afternoon, half-past 3 o'clock. The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read.

The Assembly took up the unfinished business of the morning—viz. the resolution respecting the duty of the Committee of Commissions.

The Stated Clerk asked and obtained permission to make a statement in relation to his duty as a member of the Committee of Commissions.

The Permanent Clerk obtained the same permission.

Then Mr. Ewing had leave to withdraw his resolution.]

On motion of Dr. Phillips,

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to draft a letter to the missionaries of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church.

Messrs. Phillips, Patterson, and Leavitt were appointed this committee.

On motion,

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk be directed to publish in the Appendix to the *Minutes* of the Assembly the charter of the Trustees of the General Assembly.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures, to whom was referred the subject of equalizing the representation, reported that they deemed it inexpedient to take any order on that subject under the present circumstances of the Church.

The report was accepted and approved.

The Committee on Correspondence with Foreign Bodies made a report, which was accepted and laid on the table.

On motion,

The order of the day—viz. the hearing of the American Sunday-School Union—was postponed.

The Assembly resumed the unfinished business of yesterday—viz. the report of the Committee on the State of the Church, and

On motion, Section 1 of Act II. was agreed to.

On motion, Section 2 of Act II. was amended.

And then the Assembly adjourned till this afternoon at half-past 3 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday afternoon, half-past 3 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

On motion of Dr. Church,

Resolved, That the Board of Publication of Tracts and Sabbath-school Books hold their first meeting in this house after the Assembly shall adjourn this evening, and afterward on their own adjournment.

The committee on Overture No. 13 made a report, which was accepted, and entered on the docket.

On motion,

The order of the day—viz. the election of Trustees of the General Assembly—was postponed, and made the order for to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

The Assembly resumed the unfinished business of this morning—viz. the report of the Committee on the State of the Church—and

Section 2 of Act III. was further considered, and disagreed to.

On motion of Dr. Hoge, a substitute for Section 2 was agreed to.

On motion, Sections 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 were considered, and disagreed to.

On motion, Act III., as amended and agreed to, was adopted.

On motion, the preamble of the report was considered, amended, and agreed to; and

The report of the committee, as amended and agreed to, was adopted, as follows, viz.:

The Presbyterian Church in the United States of America finds itself, by the providence of God, in the course of new and unprecedented events, in a position of great difficulty, novelty, and importance. The Church, led and supported by the God of Zion, has within the last few years commenced a great reform which had become indispensable to its very existence, as organized on the principles of the doctrine and order of its own Constitution. The General Assembly of 1837 carried forward this reform in several measures of great and momentous importance, for the details of which we refer to its records. The voice of the Church, uttered in a multitude of forms, and especially by the Commissioners to the present General Assembly, is clearly and decisively in favor of consummating the reform thus auspiciously commenced.

But a portion of the ministers and ruling elders sent to this Assembly, forgetting, or violating, as we apprehend, their duty to God and to the Church, and choosing to depart from us, have, in connection with other persons not in the communion of our Church, constituted a new ecclesiastical organization, which they improperly and unjustly assume to call the true General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America. To meet the present crisis at once with the temper and spirit becoming our high vocation, and to preserve in it, and carry safely through it, the Church committed in so great a degree to our guidance, in times of so much trial and disorder, the three following Acts are now ordained and established by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

ACT I.

SECTION 1. That in the present state of the Church all the Presbyteries in our connection ought to take order, and are hereby enjoined to take such order as is consistent with this minute, for the general reform and pacification of the Church; and they are directed so to do some time between the dissolution of the present General Assembly and the fall meetings of the Synods, either at stated or at *pro re nata* meetings of the Presbyteries as shall seem most advisable to them respectively. And those Presbyteries

whose Commissioners to this Assembly have united with others in the formation of another Assembly in the presence of this, and with tumult and violence in open contempt of it, or who have advised the formation of said body, or adhered to or attended it as members thereof after its formation, or who, without taking any part therein, have, after its formation, renounced or refused to recognize this true and only General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, are hereby required to take proper order in regard to their said Commissioners.

SECTION 2. In case the majority of any Presbytery, whose Commissioners have acted as aforesaid, shall take proper order touching their conduct in the premises, and are willing, upon the basis of the Assemblies of 1837 and 1838, to adhere to the Presbyterian Church in the United States, then and in that case the acts of their said Commissioners, in advising, creating, or uniting with said secession, or in refusing to attend on this Assembly, as the case may be, shall not prejudice the rights or interests or affect the integrity of said Presbytery, or its union with the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America as an integral portion thereof.

SECTION 3. In case the majority of any Presbytery shall refuse or neglect to take proper order in regard to its seceding Commissioners, or shall approve their conduct, or adhere to the new sect they have created, or shall decline or fail to adhere to the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, upon the said basis of 1837 and 1838, for the reform of the Church, then and in that case the minority of said Presbytery shall be held and considered to be the true Presbytery, and shall continue the succession of the Presbytery by its name and style, and from the rendition of the erroneous and schismatical decision, which is the test in the case, be the Presbytery; and if sufficiently numerous to perform Presbyterial acts shall go forward with all the proper acts and functions of the Presbytery.

SECTION 4. In case the minority of any Presbytery should be too small to constitute a Presbytery and perform Presbyterial acts, said minority shall remain in its existing state until the next subsequent meeting of the Synod to which it properly belongs, which will then take order on the subject. Otherwise, there is a possibility that several Synods might be unable to constitute, if majorities of part of their Presbyteries should adhere to the secession, and the minorities attach themselves to other Presbyteries, or several unite into one, before the Synods meet.

SECTION 5. The principles of this Act shall be applied to *churches*, with their majorities and minorities, and to church Sessions, as far as they are applicable. And the Presbyteries are hereby required so to exercise their watch and care that as far as possible all the churches may be preserved; and where, unhappily, this cannot be done, then that the minorities in the Sessions and churches shall be cared for, and dealt with on the general principles now laid down.

The Assembly is fully sensible that in divided Presbyteries and churches everything depends, under God, upon the promptitude, firmness, wisdom, and moderation of the friends of Christ in this great crisis. In this conviction the whole of that part of the subject which relates to churches and private Christians is especially commended to the Christian zeal, prudence, and fidelity of the Presbyteries and church Sessions. In regard to the temporal interests of the churches, and the difficulties which may arise on their account, the Assembly advise that, on the one hand, great liberality and generosity should mark the whole conduct of our people, and especially in cases where our majorities in the churches are very large or our minorities are very small; while, on the other hand, it would advise that providential advantages and important rights ought not in any case to be lightly thrown away.

SECTION 6. It is enjoined on the Synods to take order on this subject—to see that the principles here laid down are duly enforced—to take care that the Presbyteries act as truth and duty require in the premises—to make such needful modifications in the Presbyteries as their altered circumstances may require—and to promote by all proper means the speedy pacification of the churches by delivering and saving them from the leaven of heresy, disorder, and schism, which, having so long worked among them, is at length ready, by God's mercy, to be purged away.

SECTION 7. The Synods in all cases shall be considered lawfully constituted only when formed by or out of those Presbyteries recognized as true Presbyteries by this Assembly, according to the true tenor and intent of this Act.

ACT II.

Whereas, the Act of the Assembly of June 5th, 1837, declaring the three Synods of Utica, Geneva, and Genesee to be out of the ecclesiastical connection of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, made ample provision for the return into the bosom of the Church of every minister and church truly Presbyterian in doctrine and order, as well within the bounds of the three aforesaid Synods as within those of the Synod of the Western Reserve;

And whereas, it is represented to this Assembly that in addition to those who have embraced this invitation and provision of the aforesaid Act, there are others who have held back, and are still waiting on the developments of Providence;

And whereas, it was never the intention of the General Assembly to cause any sound Presbyterian to be permanently separated from our connection, but it is, and always was, the desire of the Church that all who really embrace our doctrine, love our order, and are willing to conform to our discipline should unite themselves with us;

And whereas, moreover, the General Assembly has no idea of narrowing, but would rather expand its geographical limits, so as to unite in bonds of the most intimate fellowship every portion of our beloved country and every evangelical Christian like minded with ourselves; it is therefore

Resolved, By the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America that it be recommended—

1. That those ministers and churches living within the geographical limits of the Synods of the Western Reserve, Geneva, Utica, and Genesee, who are willing to adhere to the Presbyterian Church in the United States on the basis of the Acts of the Assemblies of 1837 and 1838 for the general reform of the Church, take steps for the immediate organization of as many Presbyteries as there are ministers and churches, such as are above described, sufficiently numerous to constitute, so that the whole number of Presbyteries thus formed shall not exceed one Presbytery for each of the afore-named Synods and so that the territory of the Western Reserve shall in no case be added to that in Western New York. And in case only two Presbyteries can be constituted on the ground occupied by the three Synods of Utica, Geneva, and Genesee, then that whole territory shall be divided between them. And in case but one Presbytery can be constituted, then the whole territory shall attach to it. In regard to the Western Reserve, it is desired that a single Presbytery be formed as soon as convenient to embrace the whole of that ground.

2. The ministers and churches intended by this Act will hold such mutual correspondence as they shall deem needful, either by general meeting or otherwise; and then meet, at such convenient time and places as may be

agreed on by those who are to be embraced in the same Presbytery, and then and there constitute themselves in a regular, orderly, and Christian manner into a Presbytery under the care of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

3. If as many as three Presbyteries can be conveniently formed in Western New York, it will be orderly for them, as soon as possible thereafter, to unite and constitute themselves into a Synod upon the principles indicated in this Act; and such Synod, if formed, shall cover the entire territory heretofore occupied by the three Synods of Utica, Geneva, and Genesee. But in case only one or two Presbyteries can be formed, then applications shall be made by it, or them, for admission under the care and into the bosom of such Synod now in our connection as shall be most convenient and natural. And the Presbytery on the Western Reserve, if one should be formed, will adopt the same line of conduct. And any Synod to which application may be thus made by any Presbytery shall take immediate order to accomplish the ends of this Act. And it is considered that any Presbytery or Synod formed in pursuance of these directions shall have full power to perform all Presbyterial or Synodical acts, agreeably to the Constitution of the Church.

ACT III.

SECTION 1. Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America that the Presbytery of Abingdon, now attached to the Synod of Tennessee, be, and hereby is, at its own request, detached from said Synod, and united to the Synod of Virginia, and it shall hereafter be an integral part of said Synod of Virginia, and subject to its care and oversight.

SECTION 2. And whereas, it is known to the Assembly that all the Commissioners who were present at its constitution from the Synods of Tennessee, Michigan, and Missouri, with the exception of the Commissioner from the Presbytery of Abingdon, have withdrawn from the House, and, it is believed, have united in forming another body; therefore

Be it resolved, That if the Synod of Tennessee shall, either by its own act or the acts of its Presbyteries, adhere to the secession which has been made, or fail or refuse to adhere to the Presbyterian Church, as provided in the First Act, then the minority or minorities therein, adhering as aforesaid to the Presbyterian Church, shall be attached to and shall be under the care of the Synod of West Tennessee, and may proceed, as before directed in the First Act, and apply for admission to the Synod of West Tennessee, whose jurisdiction shall, in that case, be extended so as to include the ecclesiastical limits of the Synod of Tennessee; and if the like circumstances occur in respect of the Synod of Michigan, its minorities shall be under the care of the Synod of Cincinnati, on the same principles; and further, if the like circumstances occur with respect of the Synod of Missouri, its minorities shall be under the care of the Synod of Kentucky, on the same principles.

On motion,

Ordered, That the Stated Clerk send an attested copy of the foregoing Acts to the Stated Clerk of each Presbytery and Synod in connection with the General Assembly.

A resolution relative to the celebration of the Lord's Supper and other religious exercises by the Assembly was offered by Mr. McMaster, and was laid on the table.

The Committee on the Narrative of the State of Religion made a report, which was accepted, and made the order of the day for to-morrow morning at 11 o'clock.

On motion, it was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock to hear the Agent of the American Sunday-School Union.

The Committee on the Pastoral Letter made a report, which was accepted, and made the order of the day for half-past 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

And then the Assembly adjourned till to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.
Concluded with prayer.

Thursday morning, May 31st, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with reading the Scriptures, singing, and prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

On motion, the order of the day—viz. the election of Trustees—was postponed till to-morrow morning.

The committee appointed in relation to funds additional for the payment of salaries of professors in the Theological Seminary at Princeton reported, that they have received for this object, through the year, the following sums, viz. :

From Rev. Samuel G. Winchester, Natchez, Mississippi	. . . \$20 00
Premium on the same	 25
Rev. Henry A. Boardman, Philadelphia	 30 00
	\$50 25

The report was accepted, and the committee was continued.

The committee on Overture No. 10 made a report, which was accepted, amended, and adopted, and is as follows, viz. :

Whereas, in the providence of God, a door is now opened for introducing into Texas the missionaries of the Cross, the "spiritual control of the Romish priesthood having ceased" there; and whereas, the eyes of that people are directed to Protestant churches in the United States, and their cry is, "Come over and help us;" and whereas, many of the members of our churches are there as sheep without a shepherd, who with their fellow-citizens earnestly petition for the ministrations of the sanctuary; therefore

Resolved, That the General Assembly strongly recommend to its Board of Missions the country of Texas as a highly important field for their efforts, and that they adopt the earliest practicable measures to send forth into this inviting harvest efficient and devoted laborers.

On motion, the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence was taken up, amended, and adopted, as follows, viz. :

That for the sake of greater convenience it is expedient to maintain intercourse with the Congregational Union of England and Wales by written communication, and not by the appointment of delegates.

Of the particular cases submitted by the Presbyteries of New York and Philadelphia 2d there can be but one opinion among those who desire to maintain a pure and kind relation between us and our Congregational brethren. In both cases (viz. the receiving and licensing of a candidate of the Presbytery of New York by the Western Association of New Haven county, and the continuance of a member of the Berkshire Association in one of the congregations of the 2d Presbytery of Philadelphia after the Presbytery had decided that they could not receive him) there was a plain departure from the design of the original agreement and the express provisions of the stipulation of A. D. 1827.

On motion,

Ordered, That the Stated Clerk communicate a copy of the minute in the above case to the General Association of Connecticut and to the General Association of Massachusetts.

Resolved, That letters be addressed to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, to the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, to the General Synod of Ulster, to the Presbyterian Synod of Ireland, to the General Synod of the United Secession Church of Scotland, and to the Congregational Union of England and Wales, in order to convey to said bodies a succinct yet accurate account of the present state of our Church; and also, in the case of the Church of Scotland, to express our desire of opening with the General Assembly of that Church a friendly and Christian correspondence.

Messrs. Maeléan, Witherspoon, Patterson, William King, and J. Chamberlain were appointed the committee.

With respect to the expediency of instituting an inquiry into the conduct of the American Board of Commissioners in relation to the orthodoxy of missionaries employed by said Board, as suggested in a paper referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, the committee reported that they have no knowledge of any facts which render such inquiry at this time either necessary or expedient, and therefore recommend that this Assembly take no order on the subject. Accepted and adopted.

On motion, the election of delegates to corresponding bodies was made the order of the day for 4 o'clock this afternoon. Nominations were made.

The House proceeded to the order of the day; when Mr. Packard, Agent, addressed the House in relation to the works published by the American Sunday-School Union.

On motion, the thanks of the Assembly were presented to Mr. Packard for his statements.

On motion,

Resolved, That the rule in the Digest, page 308, chap. iii. section 4, allowing mileage and compensation to delegates to corresponding bodies, be suspended for this year, on account of the state of the Contingent Fund.

On motion, the report of the committee on Overture No. 3 was taken up, and indefinitely postponed.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day—viz. the report of the Committee on the Pastoral Letter—and, on motion, the report was recommitted with instructions.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day—viz. the report of the Committee on the Narrative—and, on motion, the report was recommitted.

On motion, the report of the committee on Overture No. 13 was taken up, and indefinitely postponed.

On motion, the report of the committee on Overture No. 19 was adopted, as follows, viz.:

Whereas, the General Assembly, in carrying forward the reform of the Church, should seek not only to remove existing evils, but to guard the Church in all future time, as far as practicable, from their recurrence; and whereas, much of her security, under God, will depend upon the character of her rising ministry, who are to be her future pastors and rulers; and whereas, our Form of Government, chap. xiv. section 6, requires that candidates for the ministry, before they are licensed, "shall have studied divinity under some approved divine or professor of theology," evidently meaning thereby such divine or professor of theology as is approved by the Presbyterian Church in some of her regularly organized forms; therefore, in order to secure a ministry who shall be sound in the faith and well instructed in the doctrines, order, and discipline of the Church, and in order to the thorough instruction of the people in the cardinal doctrines and duties of our holy religion, it is

Resolved, 1. That the Presbyteries be, and they hereby are, enjoined to

see that their candidates for the ministry prosecute their studies only at such theological seminaries or with such divines as are thus approved and recognized by the Presbyterian Church as sound in the faith and attached to our ecclesiastical order and forms of worship, as laid down in the accredited standards of our Church.

2. That it be recommended to all our ministers to give particular attention to such expository preaching as shall bring the great doctrines and duties of the gospel clearly before the minds of the people of their respective charges; and that they endeavor so to arrange this course of instructions that all the various doctrines of the Bible, as set forth in order in our Confession of Faith, shall be distinctly presented and enforced.

3. That the instruction of our youth in the Catechisms of the Church be earnestly recommended to the special attention of all the ministers and Sessions under the care of this General Assembly.

On motion, the complaint of the Presbytery of Wilmington, against the Synod of Philadelphia, was dismissed for want of prosecution.

The Committee on the Pastoral Letter reported again, and their report was accepted and adopted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix.

On motion, the complaint of R. J. Breekinridge and others, against the Synod of Philadelphia, was taken up. Mr. Breekinridge appeared, and was ready for trial, and stated that no person had been appointed by the Synod to defend them.

On motion of Mr. Breekinridge,

Resolved, That the case be referred to a committee, with instructions to report, to-morrow morning, a minute in accordance with the views of the parties.

Messrs. S. B. Wilson, Belville, and Bemiss were appointed this committee.

On motion, of Dr. S. B. Wilson,

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to inquire into the expediency of authorizing the Trustees of the General Assembly to take measures for the purchase of the property belonging to the Seventh Presbyterian Church in this city, for the use of the General Assembly.

Messrs. S. B. Wilson, M'Corkle, and Mitchell were appointed this committee.

Mr. Breekinridge offered a resolution that the next Assembly meet in the city of New York, at some place to be designated by the Stated and Permanent Clerks. Laid on the table.

And then the Assembly adjourned till this afternoon at half-past 3 o'clock. Concluded with prayer.

Thursday afternoon, half-past 3 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

On motion of Dr. Baxter,

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk and Permanent Clerk be a committee to form the roll of the next General Assembly, and that said roll be formed according to the principles of Act the First on the State of the Church—viz. that the Commissioners from those Presbyteries whose Commissioners have aided or concurred in forming the secession from the present Assembly shall not be enrolled until the Assembly has first been formed and has received a satisfactory report from the Presbyteries aforesaid, as to the order they have taken on the conduct of their Commissioners, and on their willingness to adhere to the constitutional order adopted and confirmed by the Assemblies of 1837 and 1838.

A resolution was offered by Dr. Baxter relative to Presbyteries composed

in part of pastors of Congregational churches, which was considered, and laid on the table.

A letter was received from the Board of Trustees of the General Assembly, which was ordered to be recorded, as follows, viz.:

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

May 31st, 1838.

At a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, held this day, it was resolved that the following communication be transmitted to the General Assembly, viz.:

The Board of Trustees of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America respectfully communicate to the Assembly, for their information, the following extracts from their minutes of May 24th, 1838, viz.:

A paper, of which the following is a copy, was presented to the Board by James Todd, Esq., on behalf of the persons therein named:

"General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, Sessions of 1838.

"This will certify that the following persons were this day elected Trustees of the General Assembly, viz.:

"James Todd, Esq., in place of Rev. Ashbel Green, D. D.

"John R. Neff, in place of Rev. George C. Potts.

"Frederick A. Raybold, in place of Rev. William Latta.

"William Darling, in place of Solomon Allen.

"Thomas Fleming, in place of Rev. Cornelius C. Cuyler, D. D.

"George W. McClelland, in place of Thomas Bradford.

"Attest, ERSKINE MASON, *Stated Clerk.*

"Philadelphia, May 24th, 1838."

Resolved, That the Board respectfully decline receiving these gentlemen as members of this Board. (Mr. White dissenting.)

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to advise with the officers of this Board, during the recesses of the Board, touching its interests, with power to employ counsel if necessary.

Messrs. Chauncey, Bradford, and Kane were appointed on this committee.

Dr. McDowell presented a certificate, of which the following is a copy, which was read, and ordered to be entered on the minutes:

I do hereby certify that the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, which commenced their sessions in this city on Thursday, the 17th inst., and are still in session, have made no change in their Stated and Permanent Clerks, or any of their Trustees, during their session; and that up to this date I have acted as Stated Clerk, and continue so to act, and have in my possession all the books and papers of the General Assembly.

(Signed) JOHN M'DOWELL, *Stated Clerk.*

Philadelphia, May 24th, 1838.

From the minutes.

JAMES BAYARD, *Secretary.*

Whereupon, on motion of Mr. W. Maxwell,

Resolved, That the Trustees of the General Assembly be instructed to take all such measures as to them shall seem needful for asserting, defending, and

securing the rights and interests of the Church confided to their care; and that the faith of the several churches in connection with the General Assembly be, and it is hereby, pledged to the said Trustees to indemnify and save them harmless from the loss or damage by reason of their action in conformity with the instructions of this body.

And then the Assembly adjourned till to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.
Concluded with prayer.

Friday morning, June 1st, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with reading the Scriptures, singing, and prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day—viz. the election of Trustees of the General Assembly, according to the rules of the Assembly on that subject—and

Mr. Alexander Symington was elected a Trustee of the General Assembly in place of Rev. George C. Potts, and Mr. James N. Dickson was elected a Trustee of the General Assembly in place of Mr. Ambrose White.

The committee on the protest and complaint of R. J. Breckinridge and others, against the action and decision of the Synod of Philadelphia in 1837, in the case of the Third Presbytery of Philadelphia, made a report, which was accepted, amended, and adopted, and is as follows, viz.:

That the whole subject be dismissed with the consent of the complainants.

On motion of Mr. Breckinridge, the following preamble and resolutions were adopted, viz.:

It having come to the knowledge of this Assembly that the ministers and churches formerly constituting the Third Presbytery of Philadelphia have, with the exception of a single minister and church, failed or refused to obey the directions of the Act of the Assembly of 1837, which dissolved that Presbytery,

Be it Resolved, 1. That all the ministers and churches formerly constituting said Presbytery, or being under its care, are hereby directed to comply with all the directions of said Act at or before the fall meetings of the Presbyteries within whose bounds they are or to which they most naturally belong.

2. In case of the failure or refusal of any of the said ministers or churches to comply with the directions now given them, then the Synod of Philadelphia shall take such order as the peace of the churches and the rights of the minorities in them shall seem to require; respect being had to the principles of the Acts passed for the pacification of the Church during the sessions of the present Assembly.

On motion of Mr. Gray,

Resolved, 1. That in the judgment of this Assembly the ministers who are located as foreign missionaries permanently out of the bounds of their respective Presbyteries ought, where they are sufficiently numerous, and where they are so located as to render occasional intercourse possible, in all cases to organize themselves into Presbyteries, and gather the converts whom God may give them into Presbyterian churches, ordaining elders in them all.

2. The Synods are hereby enjoined to take the needful order on this important and interesting subject.

The committee to whom was referred the account of Joseph Whetham made a report, which was accepted and adopted, as follows, viz.:

Resolved, 1. That in all future editions of the arranged edition of the Assembly's Psalms and Hymns all the Preface except the explanation of musical notations be omitted as useless or improper.

2. That the following account be entered on the minutes, viz.:

		Dr.
The General Assembly, in account with Joseph Whetham,		
May, 1838. To balance due at last report to General		
Assembly, on the small edition	\$171	89
Balance due at the last report to General		
Assembly, on the large edition	748	30
		\$920 19
Interest on \$920, at 6 per cent.	.	55 21
166 $\frac{2}{3}$ reams of paper, at \$2 50	.	416 66
Printing 5000 copies	.	232 00
Binding 5000 copies, at 10 cents	.	500 00
		1148 66
Ten per cent. commission on \$1148 66	.	114 86
		\$2238 92
Contra, Cr.		
By sale of 5000 copies, at 28 cents	.	\$1400 00
300 copies, large edition, at 80 cents	.	240 00
Balance due the publisher	.	598 92
		\$2238 92

On motion,

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to revise the Assembly's edition of the Psalms and Hymns, and to suggest and report such alterations, corrections, and additions for the consideration of the next Assembly as they may think proper.

Resolved, That the election of the above committee be made by ballot at half-past 3 o'clock this afternoon. Nominations were made.

The Committee on the Narrative again reported, and their report was accepted, adopted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix.

On motion of Dr. Green,

The resolution of Dr. Baxter, laid on the table yesterday, was taken up and postponed. A substitute was offered by Dr. Green, which was considered and adopted, as follows, viz.:

Considering that it is manifestly ineongruous and unreasonable that the government of the Presbyterian Church should be administered by those who do not submit to it for themselves; and whereas, there are, in this Church, certain brethren in the ministry who, by taking the pastoral charge of Congregational churches, have placed themselves in a situation in which the government and order of the Presbyterian Church cannot, in the nature of things, be fully carried into effect in relation either to themselves or to the people of whom they have the charge, this General Assembly feel it to be indispensable to declare that this is an evil which ought to be corrected as speedily as circumstances will permit; therefore

Resolved, That it be referred to the next General Assembly to correct the evil herein submitted, this General Assembly being willing that the interval of a year should be allowed to the parties concerned to correct for themselves the evil in question, if such shall be their choice.

The committee to inquire into the expediency of making arrangements for the purchase of the property belonging to the Seventh Presbyterian Church in this city for the use of the General Assembly, made a report, recommending that Mr. Alexander Henry, Mr. Solomon Allen, Mr. Matthew Newkirk, Dr. Alexander W. Mitchell, Mr. Alexander Symington, and Mr. Joseph B. Mitchell be a committee empowered to purchase the said property in trust for the General Assembly, provided it can be done with advantage, and without involving the funds or responsibilities of the General Assembly.

On motion of Dr. Hoge,

Resolved, That if any Presbytery or Synod shall be formed according to the directions given by this Assembly, or, being already formed, shall desire to be recognized as a constituent portion of the Presbyterian Church, all the proceedings in such case shall be fully reported to the next General Assembly, together with such evidence as the nature of the case shall require, and shall be approved before such body shall be finally received.

Mr. Breckinridge offered a series of resolutions in relation to suits that have been instituted or may be instituted against the officers or Trustees of this body. The resolutions were made the third order of the day for this afternoon.

And then the Assembly adjourned till this afternoon at half-past 3 o'clock.
Concluded with prayer.

Friday afternoon, half-past 3 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The committee to write a Pastoral Letter to the Foreign Missionaries under the care of the Assembly's Board made a report, which was accepted and adopted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix.

On motion of Dr. Phillips,

Resolved, By the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America,

1. That we would acknowledge the favor of God in permitting our beloved Church to engage in the work of Foreign Missions; and we would desire to have our own hearts and the hearts of all our people constantly impressed with the solemn truth that the conversion of the heathen to himself is God's work, and that everything in relation to its beginning, its progress, and its completion proceeds from him, and to him is due all the glory.

2. That for the salvation of the world God employs the agency of his Church and people, and has united the means and the end together; and that he who disregards this arrangement and withholds his aid and assistance, especially at such a time as this, fails in his duty to God and to the benighted heathen.

3. That it has always been the duty of the Church to make known the gospel to all the world; and in this day of light, with such facilities for this purpose, and so many calls and openings of Divine Providence, this duty is greatly increased; and no Church which neglects it can expect the blessing of God upon her interest.

4. That as the Presbyterian Church is engaged in this great work, and as the harvest is perishing for want of laborers, every member of the Church is called to increased exertion in behalf of our benighted fellow-men.

5. That in view of all these considerations it is the duty of the Presbyterian Church to provide the means necessary to send out and support every properly qualified foreign missionary that may be accepted by the Board; and the General Assembly would solemnly remind the members of the Church that all are required, by the word of God and their covenant engagements to him, according to their talents and means, to do what they are able to promote the glory of God, by sending the knowledge of the glorious gospel to the benighted heathen.

6. That the preaching of the gospel by the living teacher is the principal instituted means for the conversion of the souls of the perishing heathen; and in connection with this is the great duty of training up a native ministry; and the General Assembly have seen with approbation the prominence given to these vital principles in the report of the Board.

7. That for the purpose of disseminating information in relation to Foreign Missions, it be recommended to the ministers and elders of the churches to make an effort to increase the circulation of the *Foreign Missionary Chronicle*.

8. That we regard with sincere interest all the efforts of the different foreign missionary institutions to make known the truth as it is in Jesus, Christ to the heathen; and we recognize it as a duty binding upon all these institutions to cultivate the best understanding with each other in carrying forward the same great cause.

And on motion of Mr. Breckinridge,

Resolved, 9. That in view of the solemn principles and facts now declared, the General Assembly would urgently invoke all the ministers of the Presbyterian Church, and especially such as are not now laboriously engaged in the appropriate work of the gospel ministry, to come to the help of the Church in the great work of converting the world.

The Assembly proceeded to the orders of the day; and Messrs. R. G. Thompson, Irwin, and I. N. Beach were appointed a committee to receive and count the ballots for delegates to corresponding bodies; and

Messrs. Sickles, Davidson, and Doby were appointed a committee to receive and count the ballots for the committee to revise the Assembly's Psalms and Hymns.

The resolutions offered this morning by Mr. Breckinridge were considered, and, on motion of Mr. Vail, indefinitely postponed.

On motion of Mr. Hervey,

The appeal of Jacob Little and others against the Synod of Ohio was taken up, and dismissed for want of prosecution.

The committee to receive and count the ballots for delegates to corresponding bodies reported, when it appeared that the following were elected, viz.:

To the General Association of New Hampshire, Rev. Eli F. Cooley.

To the General Convention of Vermont, Rev. S. S. Davis.

To the General Association of Massachusetts, Rev. John H. Church, D. D.

To the General Association of Connecticut, Rev. Horace S. Pratt.

To the Evangelical Consociation of Rhode Island, Rev. Eliphalet Nott, D. D.

To the General Synod of the German Reformed Church, Rev. John M. Krebs.

To the General Synod of the Reformed Dutch Church, Rev. Archibald Alexander, D. D.

To the General Conference of Maine, Rev. N. H. Harding.

The committee appointed to write letters to be addressed to foreign ecclesiastical bodies reported, and their report was accepted, and adopted.

Ordered, That these letters be signed by the Moderator and Permanent Clerk, and respectively transmitted by the Stated Clerk to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland; to the General Synod of the United Secession Church of Scotland; to the Presbyterian Synod of Ireland, distinguished by the name of Seceders; to the Congregational Union of England and Wales; and to the General Synod of Ulster.

The committee to receive and count the ballots for the committee to revise the Assembly's Psalms and Hymns, reported, when it appeared that the following persons were elected—viz. Rev. William W. Phillips, D. D., Rev. Robert J. Breckinridge, Rev. Archibald Alexander, D. D., Rev. James W. Alexander, and Rev. George A. Baxter, D. D.

On motion, Overture No. 15, on the monthly concert, was taken up, amended, and adopted, as follows, viz.:

Whereas, it has appeared from the reports of the Church for many years that there has been a very lamentable neglect of the monthly concert for prayer; and as there is reason to believe that this is owing partly to the time

of its observation ; and as there is a strong probability that a change might be made which would subserve the great interests involved ; and whereas, it is the solemn and imperious duty of the Presbyterian Church, and especially at the present juncture, to promote with renewed vigor the kingdom of her Lord and Master, and for this purpose to avail herself of any facility in compassing her object ; therefore

Resolved, That it be recommended, 1st. That the monthly concert be observed hereafter on the first Sabbath of every month ; and,

2. That collections be taken up at the close of every concert, in aid of the Foreign Missionary operations of our own Church.

On motion, the appeals of H. Bushnell, and of the church of Newark, against the Synod of Ohio, were dismissed for want of prosecution.

Resolved, That the next General Assembly meet at Philadelphia, at such place as shall be designated by the Moderator and the Stated and Permanent Clerks, of which due notice shall be given.

Mr. Breckinridge, from the Committee on the State of the Church, made a final report, which was accepted, and referred to the next General Assembly ; and the committee was discharged.

It was ordered that the report be entered on the minutes, as follows, viz. :

MINUTE I.

The lateness of the session rendering it inconvenient and unsuitable for the important subject of abbreviated creeds, confessions, and church covenants to be fully examined at this time,

Resolved, That the next Assembly be requested to decide—

1. Whether members received into our communion ought to be received only in private by the church Session ; or whether, in addition to this, and after it, there should be a public reception of such members in the face of the congregation, upon profession of their faith, and with covenant between the church and said members ?

2. If there should be such public reception, should the faith and covenant professed and entered into be in substance the whole standards of the Church, or should the profession and covenant be limited ?

3. Ought there not to be uniformity on this whole subject ? and to that end ought not the Assembly either to settle proper abbreviated formularies, or to order the general use of those of the Church, or forbid any usage which requires the use of any in the manner now contemplated ?

Another subject of great importance, and kindred to this, is the mode of reception and profession of faith by candidates for adult baptism.

And it is for the reasons already stated in the foregoing case referred to the next Assembly, with the request that it would examine and decide whether there ought not to be provided a comprehensive formulary, or at least a simple directory, for adult baptisms ? and if yea, ought not the proper directory or formulary to be provided without unnecessary delay, under the care of the Assembly ?

MINUTE II.

The basis of representation remaining unaltered, the Assembly recommends to the Synods,

1. The equalization, on just and convenient terms, of the Presbyteries in the bounds of each respectively, so that, as far as may be in subordination to existing interests and general convenience, the several Presbyteries in the same Synod may approach something like equality.

2. That all the Synods, by a calm and diligent survey of this subject, so

order it as to make the Presbyteries throughout the Church stand as far as possible, regard being had as before to existing interests and general convenience, upon terms of common right and equality.

On motion, the complaint of the Presbytery of Susquehanna was discharged for want of prosecution.

On motion of Mr. Gray,

Resolved, That the Committee on Psalmody be, and they hereby are, instructed to investigate the contract between the General Assembly and Mr. Whetham on the subject of publishing our Book of Psalms and Hymns, and that they be empowered to take what order may to them seem most efficient and prudent to suppress any further emissions of the copy committed to him, and make report thereof to the next Assembly.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Ohio reported, recommending that the records be approved. The report was accepted and adopted.

On motion of Mr. Beatty,

Resolved, That the thanks of this Assembly be presented to the inhabitants of this city for their kind hospitality to the members during these sessions.

Bills for the incidental expenses of the Assembly during the session amounting to \$228.32 were presented, and it was

Resolved, That the Trustees be directed to pay the same out of the Contingent Fund.

The minutes of the present session were read and approved.

The Assembly having finished all its business,

The roll was called, and the following were recorded absent without leave: Messrs. D. T. Smith, Beman, Spear, Masters, Chapin, Vandyke, Waterbury, Tyler, Raymond, R. Smith, Mason, W. Patton, Hartley, Pierson, Fisher, Weeks, Woodruff, I. Crane, Foster, Gilbert, Hall, S. K. Wilson, P. Chamberlain, Kellogg, Cleaveland, Woodbury, Nicholls, Hammond, Disbrow, Bingham, Bosworth, Van Deman, Strong, Crothers, Long, L. Beecher, B. Dickinson, Weed, Bassett, S. G. Lowry, Jennings, A. T. Rankin, E. Beecher, Burritt, Watson, Blatchford, Bascom, Barrows, Hale, Covington, Dallas, Hill, Jamieson, J. E. Montgomery, Morrison, M'Gill, Early, G. S. White, Dick, Rogan, J. Patton, Scott, Eagleton, A. C. Dickerson, Murdock.

And then, on motion,

Resolved, That this General Assembly be dissolved; and that another General Assembly, chosen in the same manner, be required to meet at the city of Philadelphia, on the third Thursday of May, A. D. 1839, at 11 o'clock, A. M.

The Moderator accordingly dissolved the Assembly, and concluded with prayer and the apostolic benediction.

JOHN M. KREBS, *Permanent Clerk*.

APPENDIX.

PASTORAL LETTER.

DEAR BRETHREN :

In the present agitated state of our beloved Zion we think it our duty to lay our whole procedure before you, with special plainness and serious admonition, that you as well as ourselves should look earnestly and humbly to Almighty God for the deliverance of our Church from the troubles and temptations by which we have been and are yet surrounded. We believe that all parts of our Church have looked forward to the present meeting of the Assembly for some important events or decisive action which might determine our future course and give harmony to our future operations.

The last General Assembly acted under the conviction, that the only possible way to secure peace was by the separation of the parties in our Church, which could not agree on what were deemed important principles of doctrine and church order; and to effect this separation, which all parties acknowledged to be necessary, the majority thought proper to exercise the right of abrogating the unconstitutional action which had brought the discordant parties to their present connection. This procedure was indeed novel; it had never been resorted to in our Church before, and from its very novelty was calculated to startle minds not accustomed to that mode of action; it was, however, the only remedy for our case, and a remedy to which all governments, possessing a written constitution, are obliged to resort when embarrassed by unconstitutional laws.

At the first meeting of the present Assembly the friends of the last Assembly had the pleasure of ascertaining that the action of that body had been fully sustained by a large majority of our Church. So decisive was the preponderance of numbers on this occasion that had even the members from the four disowned Synods been admitted to their seats there would still have been a clear and not inconsiderable majority in favor of the reform which the last Assembly had commenced. In these circumstances we thought the course of Christian duty was plain to all parties, and that if the minority could not consent to submit to our views of doctrine and church order, it was incumbent on them to make a quiet and orderly secession. The essence of all religious liberty and ecclesiastical order is evidently involved in the principle that when two parties in the same community cannot agree, the majority must govern; but if the minority cannot in conscience submit either to the measures or the doctrines of the majority, it is their right and duty to separate and form a different denomination. For such a course as this on the part of the minority we were fully prepared; we looked forward to it with satisfaction as the only course conducive to the peace and Christian comfort of both parties; and had this course been adopted, we were willing to concur in any reasonable plan for the adjustment of any unsettled claims which might have appertained to the case. By this exposition of our views our friends and brethren will be prepared to conceive of our astonishment and grief at the course which was actually pursued.

When the hour for organizing the Assembly had arrived, and whilst the

proper officers were engaged in that business, a number of persons belonging to the minority rose in a tumultuous manner in the midst of the house, and offered some propositions and motions which evidently could not be entertained at the time, and which were declared to be out of order. subsequently proceeded with a confused clamor, in which something like nominations and voting could be heard, to what they called an organization of the Assembly, and then made the announcement that that body would hold its future sessions in the First Presbyterian Church; all this was done in defiance of the authority of the Moderator of the Assembly, who was constituting the body, and who repeatedly called to order whilst this scene of confusion was in progress.

What could have led the minority to this extraordinary course is not for us to explain. It has been suggested that they considered this as the best way for securing their legal rights; and indeed it has since appeared that they not only meant to secure their own rights, but to assume to themselves all the legal rights and claims of the whole Presbyterian Church. In this view, however, the very injustice of their plan would seem sufficient to condemn it in the estimation of all good men not influenced by prejudice. That a minority, by such a movement, could take to themselves the whole property of the Church, and strip the majority of all their rights, would certainly be an unjust procedure; and if even all this were practicable in point of law, yet in the court of conscience we believe there are but few men who would be willing to sanction it. But can it be supposed that such a course could be supported in a court of law? The legal decision which would sustain such a course would establish a principle destructive of the rights of every ecclesiastical organization throughout the world; for it is abundantly plain that in any church organization which could be formed a minority might arise, no matter how small that minority, which would be able on the plan practised in this case to divest the majority of all its power and its property and ruin the Church. Surely the members of the minority could not mean to establish a principle of law by which indeed they might be able to ruin the Presbyterian Church this year, but by which a portion, however small, might be able the next year to ruin them, and strip them of all their vested rights—a principle, in fact, which a disorderly minority in any Church might at any time employ for the subversion of that Church. We find it therefore difficult to believe that the minority could have expected to obtain the property and power of the Presbyterian Church by the movement in question, and what they did expect or intend by it we must leave to themselves or to future circumstances to explain.

Had the minority exercised a little more confidence in the majority, we think all the points of separation might have been adjusted in a manner more advantageous to themselves, and certainly in a manner more consistent with that Christian deportment which all professors of religion are bound to exhibit before the world. When the General Assembly of 1837 determined that a separation of the parties in the Presbyterian Church was necessary to its peace, and appointed a joint committee to adjust the terms of separation, the mode of dividing the property was agreed upon to the satisfaction of both parties. We have never heard that plan of division objected to since that time by any of the minority, and we have no doubt the majority would at this day have consented to it: here, then, was an obvious mode of settling all questions of property which we think would have given general satisfaction to the members of both parties, and which ought to have been adopted. Perhaps the minority will say that their reason for acting as they did was that they had proposed a negotiation just before the organization of the Assembly which was rejected. It is true they did propose a negotiation, and the proposition was rejected; but the reason for that rejection was, that the

proposition assumed as the ground of the whole negotiation, that the action of the last Assembly in disowning the four Synods of Western Reserve, Utica, Geneva, and Genesee, should be considered as unconstitutional, null, and void; and as a large majority of the Presbyteries in our Church had determined that said action of the last Assembly ought now to be carried into effect, it was evident that the proposition aforesaid could not be entertained by the members of this Assembly.

Such, dear brethren, is a brief statement of the facts and circumstances forced upon our attention at the commencement of the present Assembly, and we do not deem it necessary here to dwell any longer or give any further detail of the events of our past history which have brought matters to their present state. Both parties in our Church have placed their views of the reforming measures of the last Assembly fully before the public; the public has deliberated on the matter; and a decided majority of our Presbyteries have exercised their right of declaring that those reforming measures ought to be sustained and carried into effect; and in consequence of this decision the minority have departed from us and organized a *secession*. The Church is now fairly divided into two separate and independent denominations. Of this secession we only complain as to the manner in which it was effected, for we hold it to be the unalienable right of all Christians—a right which duty requires them to exercise—to separate themselves from other Christians with whom they cannot conscientiously agree on subjects of Christian doctrine and church order. When disagreements arise on these points, such denominational separations afford the only means of preserving the peace and purity of the Church in its present imperfect state.

And now, beloved brethren, as the first step of this necessary separation has been taken, it is our prayer to Almighty God that he would dispose and enable all parties concerned to carry it out in such manner as may be most consistent with the Christian spirit, and most conducive to a speedy restoration of general peace and Christian affection between the members of the respective bodies. It will facilitate the attainment of this desirable object to keep in memory the fact that no sentence of excommunication has ever passed between the bodies; we merely separate into different denominations, as Christians who cannot agree to live together in the same particular Church. We can assure our friends at a distance that the blessed effects of this separation are already apparent in this General Assembly: we have now, as we trust, “the unity of the Spirit in the bonds of peace,” as it pervaded our General Assemblies in former happy periods of our history, when we all “spoke, and thought, and minded the same things.”

Rejoicing as we do that this separation is thus far effected, yet we think it important to request our brethren and the churches under our care to ponder in the fear of God the events through which we have passed, and to draw from them those lessons of circumspection and humility which they are calculated to give. A few of the last years of our history have presented a mortifying spectacle, which we humbly hope never to see again in connection with our body. By the appointment of God the Church ought to be “a pillar and ground of the truth—a light of the world—a candle giving light to all that are in the house.” For the last seven or eight years of our history we have been full of darkness, our Church has been occupied with strife, filled with railing accusations and misrepresentations among professed brethren, which was well calculated to harden sinners and provoke the scoffs of the infidel.

That the Church was possessed of materials for furnishing such a spectacle as we have witnessed affords evidence that God saw something extremely wrong in our communion before our late troubles overtook us; the trials

through which we have passed was a dispensation of that kind Father who holds the Church as the apple of his eye, and who never needlessly afflicts the children of men; and whether our guilt has consisted in pride, in hypocrisy, in worldliness, or in indifference to the truth, or whether it may have consisted in all these united, it is yet certain that our chastisement has not been heavier than our crimes, and that we have much cause as a Church and as private Christians for deep repentance, careful self-examination, and turning to God, that he may show us wherefore he has contended with us, and may purify us to himself as a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

And as much of our late criminality may have consisted in things unobserved by ourselves, we think it of special importance at the present time to urge upon all our brethren the necessity of diligent and devout attention to what are called the secret means of grace. Could we know that our brethren were generally much engaged in secret reading and meditation on the word of God, and in "praying with all prayer," "and without ceasing," we should then believe that a happy and glorious reformation of our Church would certainly be accomplished, and that Zion would soon look forth from her chambers, "fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners." The promises of Scripture make it very certain that if our Church was filled with the spirit of humble and holy prayer it would soon be filled with every blessing; God will give his Holy Spirit, he will give himself, he will give every temporal and eternal good, to those who ask agreeably to his will.

We will further observe that the duty of fasting, as united with prayer, appears to be too much disregarded, if not entirely neglected, by many Christians of the present day. We agree with our fathers of the Reformation that the appointment of annual or stated fasts are not authorized under the gospel dispensation; but occasional fasting, both public and private, such as is called for by peculiar circumstances or by the dispensations of Heaven, are still among the appointed means of grace and form an important part of Christian duty. Our Saviour said the children of the bride-chamber would fast when the bridegroom was taken from them; surely such a dispensation as we have lately witnessed should lead those children to fast.

As our work at this time is a work of reformation, we believe the present is a proper period for correcting any deviations from Presbyterian usage or from the old commendable practices of our Church which may have crept in among us. It is important to every community of Christians that the youth of that community should, as far as practicable, be indoctrinated in its principles. We fear, however, that in the important work of bringing up the children of the Church "in the nurture and admonition of the Lord" both parents and pastors have too much neglected our Larger and Shorter Catechisms, and especially our Larger Catechism. Whilst we rejoice in the additional means which the publications and institutions of the present day have furnished for the assistance of family and juvenile instruction, yet we do not believe that anything has been furnished which could at all justify the laying aside of our excellent Catechisms. We believe that no uninspired men have ever been able to exhibit in'as short a compass safer and sounder views of the doctrines of salvation than is contained in those Catechisms, and we should rejoice to see our Larger Catechism brought back to its former place in the system of both family and pastoral instruction, and as extensively as practicable committed to memory. We are persuaded that the dear youth under our care would lose neither time nor labor by making their minds as familiar as possible with that excellent summary of the doctrines of Christ.

And among other things, beloved brethren, we esteem it our duty to recommend to your patronage and perusal suitable religious periodicals. We know it has been made a question by some whether the Church would not be better without those papers and periodicals which are called religious than with them. This is a question we shall not discuss in the abstract; such papers have been, and will continue to be circulated, and the only antidote for those that do evil is to circulate those which do good. We should suppose that intelligent Christians would not find it difficult to determine what papers or periodicals they ought to sustain; they may try such papers by the Bible; they may try them by the standards of the Church, or, according to our Saviour's rule, they may try them by their fruits. "Men do not gather grapes of thorns, nor figs of thistles;" publications filled with railings and misrepresentations cannot produce the peaceful fruits of righteousness.

And now, brethren, we would say in conclusion let us with cheerful and Christian confidence, as well as with true humility, put our trust in the living God. We believe the work in which we are engaged is the work of God. If we know ourselves—and we have prayed that we might know ourselves in the present case—our great and only motive has been to maintain the truth as it is in Jesus. We believe that the interests of truth are at stake—we believe that our standards contain that revealed system of truth which God has ordained for extending his glory and his salvation over the whole earth; and although we have nothing to do in judging those that are without, yet we cannot suffer this system to be mutilated or perverted by those who teach in our communion and are professedly under our authority. With brethren of other communions, who honestly differ from us on some points, we have no contest; we leave the questions between them and us to the judgment of our common Master; but as to persons in our own communion, we must contend earnestly for what we believe to be the *faith*, and whilst we ascribe no infallibility to our own judgments, or even to our own standards, yet the opinions we have formed from the word of God must to us be the rule of our faith and practice; and whilst engaged, as we humbly trust, in maintaining the truth and the cause of our Saviour, we look to the living God for the success of our efforts. We also believe that the hand of God has been visible in leading us, and conducting our cause to the present issue, and we hope the same Almighty power will guide us and you in all our future operations.

As reformation has been frequently mentioned in the preceding remarks, we trust it will be understood by our churches that no new doctrine or practice is to be introduced. The Assembly merely intends that there shall be a return to the faith and practice of our Church, as heretofore inculcated in our standards, wherever there may have been a departure. We would further recommend that in view of the events through which we have passed, and the deliverance which we hope Almighty God has bestowed upon our Church, that the second Thursday of December next be solemnly observed by all the members of our communion as a day of solemn humiliation, thanksgiving, and prayer, and that the churches and congregations in our connection meet on that day for the purpose of public worship.

WILLIAM S. PLUMER, *Moderator.*

JOHN M. KREBS, *Permanent Clerk.*

Philadelphia, May 31, 1838.

PASTORAL LETTER TO FOREIGN MISSIONARIES.

THE General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America to the Missionaries under the care of their Board of Foreign Missions wish grace, mercy, and peace.

VERY DEAR BRETHREN :

Assembled, as usual, as the representatives of the whole Church with which we are connected to deliberate on its affairs and to devise measures for extending the Redeemer's kingdom, we cannot forbear to pour out the fullness of our hearts to those beloved brethren who have gone forth from our bosom to carry the glorious gospel to the benighted heathen.

Not that our confidence in either the wisdom or fidelity of the Board which we have appointed, or of their Executive Committee, is in the least impaired. On the contrary, their annual report, recently received, has our entire approbation, and furnishes new evidence both of their competency and faithfulness. And we trust that all the instructions and communications of the Executive Committee, who are more immediately charged with the supervision of your labors, will be received with all that respect and docility to which they are so well entitled. But as it is our firm belief that the Church, in her ecclesiastical capacity, is bound to superintend and direct, as far as practicable, the missions which she authorizes, we cannot deny ourselves the pleasure of directly addressing you on several subjects which we deem important, and in regard to which we are desirous of stirring up your minds by way of remembrance. The solemnity and responsibility of your situation as bearers of the word of Life to those who are sitting in darkness and the shadow of death; the perils and privations to which you are exposed; and the probable consequences of the manner in which you discharge your ministry,—all crowd into our minds, and fill us with unspeakable solicitude, while we entreat your attention to those considerations which, with all respect and tenderness, we would impress upon your minds; and—

1. We earnestly exhort you to AIM CONTINUALLY AT A HIGH STANDARD OF PERSONAL PIETY. We doubt not you have already become convinced by experience that a strong faith, an humble, tender confidence in the power and faithfulness of your covenant God, and a cheerful submission to the many trials which await you are peculiarly important to gospel laborers among the heathen. It is perfectly evident that small attainments in piety are altogether insufficient to sustain and carry forward the Missionary in his self-denying and arduous work. Unless you live near to God and abound in prayer, in reading his word, and in habits of peculiar and devout communion with the Father of your spirits and his Son Jesus Christ, you will find but little comfort, and probably but little success, in your labors. Deep and ardent piety is inestimably precious to every disciple of Christ, and especially to every minister, in every situation in which either can be placed; but in no situation can it be regarded as so vitally important as to those who are called to labor amidst the darkness and desolations of the heathen world, and to encounter the numberless difficulties which the degrading superstitions, the profligate habits, and the philosophy, falsely so called, of the heathen, constantly present. We entreat you, therefore, first of all, and above all, to study to grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. This is your highest duty, your most precious privilege, your surest consolation under all the trials of life, and the most certain pledge that your labors will not be in vain in the Lord.

2. In imparting a knowledge of the gospel to the heathen BE CAREFUL TO COMMUNICATE ITS PURE AND SIMPLE DOCTRINES, WITHOUT ANY OF THOSE ADDITIONS OR MODIFICATIONS WHICH HUMAN PHILOSOPHY, FALSELY SO CALLED, IS APT TO SUGGEST. God has promised to bless the *truth*, and he has not promised to bless anything else. The prayer of the Master is, *Sanctify them through thy truth; thy word is truth*. The precious message of life and peace which you bear to the heathen is not *your* message, but *Christ's*. Your duty evidently, then, is to "preach the preaching which he bids you,"

without turning from it either to the right hand or to the left. Let the Bible be your great directory in every sermon. You are now laying the foundations of divine truth and order among the heathen. See that you everywhere make Jesus Christ, and him crucified, the chief corner-stone. Never admit for a moment the thought of accommodating the doctrines of the gospel to the corrupt taste of your hearers. Be not backward to teach the heathen that by the sin of our first parents we lost our original righteousness and became guilty before God; that we are all by nature totally depraved, destitute of holiness and of all strength in ourselves to regain either the image or the favor of God; that there is no other ground of justification than the righteousness of the Redeemer, imputed to us, and received by faith alone; and that without the renewing and sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit no sinner can either return to God or be prepared for the holy joys of his presence. These humbling and self-denying doctrines form the great theme of all the apostolical addresses to the primitive churches; and although those holy men, in encountering the prejudices of the heathen, had every temptation to soften the aspect of their instruction and to accommodate it to the proud claims and the voluptuous habits of those around them, they refused to do either; but, whether the heathen would hear or whether they would forbear, they charged home upon them their real character, and assured them that without holiness no man should see the Lord. Let this practice be your model. You will never be likely to benefit the poor pagans unless you go to them, not with "the enticing words of man's wisdom," but with "the simplicity that is in Christ," unfolding to them without fear or reserve what they are by nature, what they have made themselves by sinful practice, and what they must be by the grace of God, or eternally perish. All history bears witness that just in proportion as the ministers of religion fail of preaching the pure and simple doctrines of the gospel, their ministry loses its power, vital piety declines, and the Church becomes a scene of discord and strife, instead of heavenly love.

3. BE CAREFUL TO LET YOUR EXAMPLE AT ALL TIMES MANIFEST THE POWER AND PURITY OF THE RELIGION YOU TEACH. Endeavor to exemplify in your own conduct the holy and self-denying system which you bear to them as the gospel of the grace of God. It is deeply to be regretted that so many nominal Christians, with whom the heathen have frequent intercourse, exhibit an example adapted to fill them with prejudices against the gospel, and to make even the name of Christian odious in their view. This melancholy fact renders it of peculiar importance that those who go among them as ministers of our holy religion should study so to conduct themselves as to be "living epistles" in favor of the truth, known and read of all who see them. This will soon satisfy them that you really are what you profess to be, and will be in the place of a thousand arguments in favor of the religion you profess. For although they are filled with prejudices against the holy system which you teach, yet they are close observers of facts, and will not fail of receiving impressions from them.

4. We entreat you to bear in mind THAT ALL YOUR LABORS WILL BE IN VAIN UNLESS THEY ARE ACCOMPANIED AND MADE EFFECTUAL BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. "Paul may plant, and Apollos water, but God giveth the increase." "He that planteth is nothing, and he that watereth is nothing, but it is God that showeth mercy." It is of the utmost importance that this great principle in the economy of grace be ever borne in mind in all your ministrations. The moment it is forgotten you will go forth in your own strength, and God, in righteous displeasure, will probably disappoint your hopes. His glory he will not give to another. Let all your labors, then, be begun and constantly attended with humble, importunate prayer for that

power of the Holy Spirit by which alone they can become efficacious. When most sensible of your own weakness and insufficiency, and most deeply impressed with a sense of your need, at every step, of divine aid, the greater is the probability of your happy success. Ever study to walk humbly with God, and to look to the power of his grace alone for the fruit of all your labors. And let your views of the power and riches of the Holy Spirit's influence be large and confident. The territories of heathenism have already been repeatedly blessed, within our memory, with powerful and most precious revivals of religion; and the time is not far distant when nations sunk in sin and death shall be "born in a day." Expect great things, then, and pray without ceasing for great displays of the power of God in convincing and converting sinners and building up believers in faith and holiness unto salvation.

5. Let the heathen among whom you labor SEE THAT YOU LOVE THEM AND THAT YOU ARE INTENT ON PROMOTING THEIR BEST INTERESTS. Your labors will be pleasant to yourselves, as well as more likely to benefit them, in proportion to the degree in which you feel and manifest an ardent desire to advance their happiness. You can probably do much for promoting their temporal as well as their eternal welfare by recommending abstinence from intoxicating liquors, industry, the introduction of important arts and trades, and, in short, everything which has a bearing on personal and domestic comfort. Every benefit of this nature which you confer on the heathen will endear you to them, and will also prepare them more fully to profit by your evangelical ministrations. In a word, everything that you can do to lift them up in the scale of knowledge and civilization, as well as of Christianity, will be important, and will forward the great purpose for which you are sent to them.

6. We recommend to your attention and to your unceasing prayers THE CHILDREN OF THE HEATHEN. We are far from despairing of the conversion of adults among them. Experience, as well as the word of God, shows that the power of the Holy Spirit can overcome the most obstinate hardness, as well as the most inveterate habits of pagan profligacy. And therefore it will be your duty to preach the gospel to all classes, in every form, and by all the means in your power. Proclaiming the word of Life by the living teacher is God's own ordinance, which ought never to be exchanged for any other where it is possible to employ it. But still we consider the children and young people as pre-eminently the hope of your missionary labors. The greater susceptibility of the youthful mind, the durability of impressions made in early life, and the comparative ease with which habits are changed which have not become inveterate,—all recommend diligent and persevering efforts to form the minds of children and youth as among the most promising and probably productive departments of missionary labor. But this is not all. Parents themselves are never more likely to be effectually reached and profited than through the medium of their children. They will, of course, regard with favor those whom they see to be laboring for the happiness of their offspring; and when they see their children growing in knowledge and in good habits under the instructions of the missionaries, this will form a new bond of attachment and open a new avenue to their hearts.

We exhort you, therefore, next to the preaching of the gospel, to make the instruction of heathen youth, in every form which you may find practicable and expedient, an object of your constant and diligent attention. But let all your schools and instructions be strongly stamped with a Christian character. Let the Bible be everywhere carefully introduced. Let all your efforts for the benefit of youth be consecrated with prayer, and let the excellent Catechisms of our Church be as early and as extensively employed as possible as formularies of instruction. Recollect that it is our object to

raise up, as soon as practicable among the heathen, a native ministry. The attainment of this object will require the most vigorous efforts to educate the young, the selection of the most promising of their number for special culture, and elevating the means of their instruction as far as circumstances will admit.

7. Be careful to MAINTAIN IN ALL YOUR MISSIONS THE WORSHIP AND ORDER, AS WELL AS THE DOCTRINE, OF YOUR OWN CHURCH. We have no desire either to cherish ourselves, or to recommend to you, a sectarian spirit. But we cannot think that a warm attachment to our own beloved Church, and a decided preference of its rites and polity, deserve to be so styled. As long as we believe them to be founded on the word of God we must consider an adherence to them as our incumbent duty. And as you are the representatives among the heathen of the Church of your choice, we trust you will faithfully maintain all its claims and usages. The only departure from this principle which we can consider as likely, in some cases, to be necessary is that which relates to the appointment of ruling elders. In the infancy of the Church, at some of the missionary stations, it may not be always practicable to obtain suitable candidates for this office among the converts from paganism. In this case, as we have no doubt happened in the apostolic age, it will be proper for the teaching elder or elders at each station to perform the usual duties of the church Session until suitable ruling elders can be obtained. It is hardly necessary to add, however, that this expedient ought not to be continued an hour longer than is absolutely necessary.

8. We hope you will BE DILIGENT IN COLLECTING ALL THE INFORMATION OF EVERY KIND which can be considered as bearing on the missionary cause, not only for your own benefit, but also for transmission to the Executive Committee, for the enlargement of their views and their guidance in the great work entrusted to their management.

Finally, dear brethren, you are engaged in the noblest cause that can employ the attention and efforts of mortals. Be faithful unto death, and you shall receive a crown of life. And unite with us in prayer that the whole Church may, with one heart and one soul, come up to the performance of this great work. We pledge ourselves, in the fear of God, to you and to the heathen world, that, by the favor of the almighty King of Zion, we will go forward in this cause, and employ all the means which he may put at our disposal in prosecuting the enterprise before us. May the Lord inspire you with wisdom and gird you with strength! And may the spirit of Missions be poured out in large measures upon all the churches, that they may all feel their obligation, and all, with one consent and with united strength, come up to the help of the Lord against the mighty.

WILLIAM S. PLUMER, *Moderator.*

JOHN M. KREBS, *Permanent Clerk.*

Philadelphia, June 1st, 1838.

NARRATIVE OF THE STATE OF RELIGION.

THE General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, in examining the several narratives of the state of religion sent up by the Presbyteries, though there are many things which furnish ground for deep humiliation, yet find much to cheer and encourage the friends of the Saviour beyond what is common in the reports of former years. Many of the Presbyteries have sent up no report on this subject. From those which have been made the Assembly have carefully studied the state of religion and the prospects of its advancement in the churches under their care, and now submit the result of their examination.

Among the indications of good which we discover are an increased and

increasing attention, in a great number of our Presbyteries, to catechetical instruction, a growing attachment to the doctrines and order of the Presbyterian Church, and a greater disposition to adhere to and sustain the Boards of Missions and of Education which have been established by the General Assembly. They think too that they have been able to derive from the reports that there is throughout the churches an increasing attention to the religious education of youth by means of Sabbath-schools and Bible-classes, and that these institutions are beginning to be more highly regarded by the churches and to be taken more directly under the supervision of the pastors and elders than heretofore. They rejoice in believing that the officers of the Church are awakening to a sense of their duty in these respects. From the position which they occupy, from the obligations which they have taken upon themselves, and from the example which they are bound to set to their brethren, they should take the lead in these matters. The mental and moral and religious training of the generation that is to succeed us in bearing onward the banners of the Cross should not be left entirely to inexperienced hands. The pastors and elders of the Church should be foremost in the promotion of this object, and their wisdom and experience and steady hand should guide it in the outset and hold it firmly in the proper course. The Assembly think that the Church is attending to this duty better than heretofore. This fact, and the additional fact that a greater regard is paid to instruction in the Shorter Catechism, encourage us to hope that the children of the Church will be more thoroughly instructed in the evangelical doctrines and precepts of the Scriptures than their fathers were, and that with the proper understanding of these things the liability of the Church to be distracted hereafter with internal doctrinal dissensions will decrease.

The Boards of Foreign and Domestic Missions and of Education have been conducted with energy and skill, and deserve, as they are receiving, the increasing regard of the whole Church. And the Assembly are pleased to learn that more has been done by the churches during the past year for the support of the benevolent operations of the Church than in any former year. The Assembly are not, however, permitted to say that they are by any means as fully sustained as the state of the world and our duty to our fellow-men and to God, the Head of the Church, demands. The heathen world—part of it in utter moral darkness, in entire ignorance that there is a way of salvation from the apprehended desert of sin, and part of it already stretching out its hands toward us for help and directing its eyes to us for light—loudly demands the attention of the Church. The waste places of Zion in our own land, the many, very many, vacant churches in all parts of our beloved country, and the many, very many, places where as yet no house has been erected for the public worship of our Father in heaven and for the religious instruction of the people, where no herald of the Cross goes forth to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord,—all present most urgent and persevering entreaties that we should not suffer our benevolence to languish nor our liberality to decrease with regard to them. They all remind us that our Boards of Education and of Missions must be steadily and efficiently sustained, so that soon these moral desolations may be cheered with the mild and salutary and life-giving influence of the gospel. Let us not disregard these high claims, these solemn duties.

The Assembly rejoice in finding that the reports of the Presbyteries disclose a state of greater unanimity, peace, and harmony in relation to doctrines and practice than has heretofore existed, and fondly hope that the time is fast approaching when our beloved Church shall be entirely freed from all those dissensions and causes of dissension which have heretofore so much disturbed her peace and harmony.

The cause of temperance appears to be making but slow progress. In many places the friends of the Saviour appear to have become discouraged and to have relaxed their efforts. From some places the complaint is still sent up that members, and even elders of the Church, forgetting the true position in which they stand, the ruin which they may be causing to the souls of men, and the injury they are doing to the cause of the blessed Saviour, still interpose their influence and example to prevent the onward progress of the temperance reformation. At the same time we are gratified to learn that in many places this cause has been making rapid progress, and that many regions have been greatly blessed with its healing influences.

The Assembly would most sincerely thank God that genuine revivals of religion have been more frequent and of longer continuance within our bounds during the past year than during many that have preceded it. In some of the Presbyteries the reviving and regenerating influences of the Holy Spirit have been most powerfully felt, and many, even aged sinners, including the soldier of the Revolution, have been brought to the foot of the Cross and enabled to rejoice in the God of their salvation. In other Presbyteries and churches, although these heavenly dews have been distilled to a more limited extent, still the seed sown has been watered and has brought forth fruit, and we would rejoice and be glad in it. The tokens of good have been sufficient to revive the confidence of many of the devoted servants of Christ and encourage them in their work. With her advancement in purity the Church has been growing in grace and increasing in numbers. As she is becoming freed from the excitement growing out of a protracted and severe controversy which had wellnigh dried up all her strength, she is rising in her majesty and beginning to show herself fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners. Unincumbered by anything from without, undivided, or nearly so, in sentiment and action, she begins to go forth as a united power, as with the mind of one man, carrying the tidings of salvation to a ruined world; and, undistracted by party excitements and heartburnings, she addresses her united and ardent prayer to the God of Jacob that all the means of grace may be abundantly blessed and that the Head of the Church may be honored, and sinners everywhere be saved through her instrumentality.

It is with great pleasure the Assembly learn that there is an increasing attention paid by the Presbyteries and pastors to the instruction of the colored population, particularly in places where this class of people is numerous. The General Assembly hope that the duty of the Church in relation to these people may be more fully understood, and that wherever they are to be found proper religious instruction may be provided for them.

The cause of seamen and boatmen, too, has not been overlooked. The benevolence of the Church is still turned toward them, and facilities for their religious instruction appear to have been increased during the past year. Other objects of benevolence appear to have received their usual attention from the churches.

Notwithstanding these indications of divine favor which present themselves here and there as verdant spots watered by the dews of heavenly grace and warmed by its mild influences, where the eye of the humble and believing Christian may rest with delight, yet the Assembly lament that the great body of the Church is still in a state of coldness and declension. God's people have backslidden from their duty; they have forgotten their first love; the world, a desire of gain, and a spirit of speculation have drawn off their hearts; neglect of the domestic altar is very prevalent, and, though their attendance upon the public worship of God has been good as heretofore, yet it is to be feared that it is with less spirituality of mind; and every lover of

the Saviour, in viewing the whole ground, feels that there is indeed a wilderness before him, and he is constrained to exclaim, "Oh that my head were waters, and my eyes a fountain of tears, that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people!"

Among the causes which seem to have retarded the progress of the gospel, one which appears very prominent is a disposition among God's people to be carried away with, and to unite in keeping up, the various exciting topics of discussion which peculiarly distinguish the present day. This has been called the age of improvement. Such it may be. But it certainly is an age of excitement and innovation—an age in which many appear to think themselves called upon to question and unsettle principles and practices which have received the enlightened sanction of centuries, to contest the propriety of things held most sacred, to uproot and destroy the deep foundations of all order, social, political, and religious, and to keep the mind of society in a state of constant excitement and change. This disposition has not been without the countenance of professing Christians, and its effect has been felt throughout the whole Church. Many of God's people, instead of lending their talents, their influence, and their feelings to the great work of saving sinners, have given them another direction. They have assisted in attracting the attention of the Church and of the world to other objects which have so effectually engrossed the mind as to exclude the peaceful truths of the gospel and prevent their efficacy. In order that the gospel may have its most rapid and glorious progress the minds of men should be in such a calm, composed, and unexcited state that the attention may be directed as individually as possible to gospel invitations and gospel truths. The Church, instead of countenancing any other state of public feeling, should exert itself to allay and repress all such excitements, should throw oil upon the troubled waters, and should earnestly pray to the great Head of the Church that he would speak peace to the raging elements, that there might be no obstacles to hinder, no difficulties to retard the rapid advancement of his glorious kingdom.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.

THE General Assembly has under its care *nineteen* Synods, comprising *one hundred and seven* Presbyteries, viz.:

1. The Synod of Albany, containing the *six* Presbyteries of Londonderry, Newburyport, Champlain, Troy, Albany, and Columbia.
2. The Synod of New York, containing the *eight* Presbyteries of Hudson, North River, Bedford, Long Island, Long Island 2d, New York, New York 2d, and New York 3d.
3. The Synod of New Jersey, containing the *six* Presbyteries of Newark, Elizabethtown, New Brunswick, Newton, Susquehanna, and Montrose.
4. The Synod of Philadelphia, containing the *nine* Presbyteries of Philadelphia, Philadelphia 2d, New Castle, Wilmington, Lewes, Baltimore, Carlisle, Huntingdon, and Northumberland.
5. The Synod of Pittsburgh, containing the *eight* Presbyteries of Blairsville, Redstone, Washington, Ohio, Allegheny, Steubenville, Beaver, and Erie.
6. The Synod of Michigan, containing the *three* Presbyteries of Detroit, St. Joseph, and Monroe.
7. The Synod of Ohio, containing the *six* Presbyteries of Athens, Columbus, Lancaster, Wooster, Richland, and Marion.

8. The Synod of Cincinnati, containing the *five* Presbyteries of Chillicothe, Miami, Cincinnati, Oxford, and Sidney.

9. The Synod of Indiana, containing the *six* Presbyteries of Salem, Vincennes, Madison, Crawfordsville, Indianapolis, and Logansport.

10. The Synod of Illinois, containing the *eight* Presbyteries of Illinois, Kaskaskia, Sangamon, Ottawa, Schuyler, Palestine, Peoria, and Alton.

11. The Synod of Missouri, containing the *three* Presbyteries of Missouri, St. Louis, and St. Charles.

12. The Synod of Kentucky, containing the *five* Presbyteries of Louisville, Muhlenburg, Transylvania, West Lexington, and Ebenezer.

13. The Synod of Virginia, containing the *seven* Presbyteries of Abingdon, Greenbrier, Lexington, Winchester, District of Columbia, West Hanover, and East Hanover.

14. The Synod of North Carolina, containing the *five* Presbyteries of Roanoke, Orange, Fayetteville, Concord, and Morgantown.

15. The Synod of Tennessee, containing the *three* Presbyteries of Union, French Broad, and Holston.

16. The Synod of West Tennessee, containing the *five* Presbyteries of West Tennessee, Nashville, Shiloh, North Alabama, and Western District.

17. The Synod of South Carolina and Georgia, containing the *seven* Presbyteries of South Carolina, Bethel, Harmony, Charleston Union, Georgia, Hopewell, and Flint River.

18. The Synod of Alabama, containing the *three* Presbyteries of South Alabama, Tuscaloosa, and Tombeckbee.

19. The Synod of Mississippi, containing the *four* Presbyteries of Mississippi, Clinton, Arkansas, and Louisiana.

SUMMARY VIEW OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES, FOR 1838.

PRESBYTERIES.	Ministers.	Licentiate.	Candidates.	Churches.	Com. added on Examination.	Certificate.	Total of Communicants.	Adults Baptized.	Infants Baptized.	Funds raised for Missions.	Funds raised for Education.	Funds raised for Theological Seminaries.	Funds raised for Commis-sioners.	Contingent Fund.	STATED CLERKS OF PRESBYTERIES.
Londonderry	25	1	...	25	45	...	1902	4	72	.....	.....	.....	\$ 17 50	.....	Edward L. Parker.
Newburyport (1837) ..	16	2	...	17	10	334	6	23	23	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Jonathan F. Stearns.
Champlain (1837)	21	...	...	17	44	8	905	34	34	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Charles Doolittle.
Troy (1837)	24	4	2	30	115	85	2080	24	53	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nathan S. S. Beman, D. D.
Albany	34	3	5	33	170	152	4672	60	221	\$7646 75	\$3167 85	\$ 500 00	83 53	\$50 00	John Clancy.
Columbia (1837)	27	5	5	23	73	...	1256	24	60	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Thomas M. Smith.
Hudson	25	1	...	25	132	56	2727	61	85	525 31	60 00	.....	56 69	40 37	John H. Leggett.
North River	19	5	5	22	167	115	2173	58	134	1585 35	328 00	224 00	31 77	15 50	John Johnston.
Bedford	16	...	3	16	61	41	1306	29	60	1276 39	470 36	.....	48 48	17 20	Jacob Green.
Long Island (1837).....	14	1	4	13	11	14	1412	7	43	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Abraham Luce.
Long Island 2d	8	...	1	11	22	18	1134	11	24	124 67	.....	.....	23 75	6 70	James M'Dougall.
New York	32	4	12	16	229	248	3231	39	206	6335 46	794 84	265 00	100 76	81 22	Elias W. Crane.
New York 2d	8	2	...	5	115	131	1341	9	99	32 00	750 00	.....	.....	5 00	Henry A. Rowland.
New York 3d (1837) ..	32	3	7	24	667	429	5604	214	305	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Erskine Mason, D. D.
Newark (1837)	33	2	2	29	360	322	5210	116	199	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Ebenezer Seymour.
Elizabethtown	27	4	6	22	306	167	4465	112	226	3618 82	793 71	.....	53 15	53 14	James M. Huntington.
New Brunswick.....	31	16	7	21	454	88	3232	184	213	1424 18	611 22	50 00	41 00	40 00	Eli F. Cooley.
Newton	25	5	6	27	121	76	4109	19	149	1618 93	561 08	50 00	81 00	9 00	Isaac N. Candee.
Susquehanna	14	1	3	21	49	19	1370	8	52	575 54	104 25	20 00	59 50	2 50	John Dorrance.
Montrose (1837)	15	...	...	23	7	17	1439	1	51	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Sylvester Cooke.
Philadelphia	28	4	7	22	173	108	1806	43	105	4212 21	2335 85	110 00	84 00	9 00	William L. McCalla.
Philadelphia 2d.....	16	4	3	19	182	176	2208	35	112	3788 09	2086 00	160 00	67 07	69 07	William D. Howard.
Newcastle	29	8	4	26	165	49	3750	52	216	1909 11	528 71	.....	58 33	13 57	John H. Symmes.
Wilmington (1837)	12	1	...	14	76	133	1062	22	57	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	E. W. Gilbert.
Lewes (1837)	5	...	...	13	3	...	449	...	15	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Cornelius S. Mustard.
Baltimore	9	7	2	9	106	47	1471	5	90	5424 44	1698 00	.....	5 25	20 93	George W. Musgrave.
Carlisle	28	2	3	43	172	33	3514	24	167	1755 93	428 00	149 75	24 00	12 50	James C. Watson.
Huntington	20	2	1	30	122	105	3018	18	251	1650 81	254 32	.....	61 00	12 00	John Hutchinson.
Northumberland	15	...	2	24	51	...	1472	14	107	169 00	48 77	.....	63 50	10 00	Isaac Grier.
Blairsville	16	1	3	30	176	140	3533	29	315	714 12	365 32	254 80	85 50	9 00	Samuel McFarren.
Redstone	13	3	3	28	157	80	2798	35	164	896 00	251 00	892 00	64 10	6 50	Ashebel G. Fairchild.
Washington	18	3	10	24	141	158	3369	31	263	2569 92	1317 32	569 94	76 00	13 00	William P. Abrieh.

PRESBYTERIES.										STATED CLERKS OF PRESBYTERIES.									
Ministers.	Licentiate.	Candidates.	Churches.	Com. added on Examination.	Com. added on Certificate.	Total of Com- municants.	Adults Bap- tized.	Infants Bap- tized.	Funds raised for Missions.	Funds raised for Education.	Funds raised for Theological Seminaries.	Funds raised for Commis- sioners.	Contingent Fund.						
Greenbrier	10	...	15	19	10	1403	8	79	\$ 177 34	\$ 258 50	\$ 45 00	\$ 117 50	\$ 6 10	William G. Campbell.					
Lexington.....	28	2	38	47	106	5926	21	187	957 06	351 17	76 00	140 28	6 50	John A. Van Lear.					
Winchester.....	18	3	4	31	49	1376	9	116	407 79	373 00	10 00	21 00	1 00	William H. Foote.					
Dis. of Columbia (1837)	10	3	2	9	6	1060	...	39	...	...	...	...	...	John C. Smith.					
West Hanover	33	7	38	199	49	1909	80	69	495 00	...	10 00	124 00	...	James Wharey.					
East Hanover	17	...	7	18	38	1238	14	80	1939 75	1261 00	20 00	145 00	20 00	Alexander Mebane.					
Roanoke	7	2	13	23	7	570	...	19	135 00	18 00	...	68 50	3 00	Samuel L. Graham, D. D.					
Orange	19	1	6	29	24	37	1674	9	44	386 44	177 50	109 29	8 00	N. H. Harding.					
Fayetteville	22	...	45	41	16	2365	3	83	316 15	234 00	...	110 00	14 50	Simeon Colton.					
Concord	25	1	33	194	31	3485	47	266	245 00	143 00	50 00	253 00	8 00	Samuel Williamson.					
Morganton	5	...	20	36	15	747	4	84	205 72	...	...	...	6 00	J. S. McCutchan.					
Union (1837)	26	3	4	30	61	2469	19	109	...	...	...	...	...	Darius Hoyt.					
French Broad	8	1	1	16	17	1292	4	46	...	...	...	...	...	Charles Coffin, D. D.					
Holston (1836)	8	1	1	15	102	770	26	54	...	...	...	...	...	John W. Cunningham.					
West Tennessee.....	10	2	15	10	10	1115	2	36	478 18	448 34	...	79 30	2 50	Thomas F. Scott.					
Nashville	8	...	9	13	22	428	5	25	130 25	527 50	...	115 00	10 00	John T. Edgar, D. D.					
Shiloh (1835).....	11	3	4	25	127	21	1516	...	172	...	...	...	...	John W. Hall.					
North Alabama.....	9	...	16	36	10	674	21	47	547 04	161 25	...	99 75	9 50	James Weatherby.					
Western District.....	12	1	2	29	42	91	631	10	17 00	101 25	...	117 75	6 50	Alexander A. Campbell.					
South Carolina.....	17	1	2	37	30	7	742	3	35	295 49	104 00	173 06	1 50	Samuel B. Lewers.					
Bethel	10	...	20	79	58	2041	8	182	270 00	181 00	63 25	157 50	6 00	John B. Davies.					
Harmony	18	5	4	28	60	20	2282	7	81	789 24	884 00	163 00	10 00	George Howe.					
Charleston Union.....	25	3	8	33	18	788	21	35	2080 00	830 00	110 00	...	...	Benjamin Gildersleeve.					
Georgia.....	11	...	9	15	13	329	3	15	948 00	250 00	...	82 00	4 00	Nathaniel A. Pratt.					
Hopewell	24	...	5	42	13	43	690	...	45	...	...	...	...	Hampton C. Carter.					
Flint River (1835)	11	2	3	26	33	1478	4	49	1128 68	680 20	...	151 50	8 87	James C. Patterson.					
South Alabama	16	3	3	34	140	1695	56	166	...	...	...	...	...	Thomas S. Witherspoon.					
Tuscaloosa	13	...	2	16	34	69	786	5	75	790 93	333 00	188 00	4 90	James N. Carothers.					
Tombechee	13	1	...	19	32	73	560	9	44	...	...	170 00	8 00	Thomas C. Stuart.					
Mississippi.....	11	4	9	14	24	26	688	10	3740 00	1862 50	...	...	28 00	Jeremiah Chamberlain, D. D.					
Clinton (1837)	9	1	...	13	8	9	202	...	...	...	...	...	...	Jeremiah Newton.					
Arkansas	8	1	...	6	27	10	239	20	47	302 75	25 00	10 00	4 50	Joel Wood.					
Louisiana	12	3	...	11	39	10	266	13	760 50	250 00	...	10 00	10 00	Benjamin Chase.					
Totals, 107	1690	212	228	2343	9562	7947	177665	2692	88356	53,354	808 29	7418 36	827 90						

1839.

PHILADELPHIA, *May 16th*, 1839.

THE General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America met, agreeably to appointment, in the Seventh Presbyterian Church, in the city of Philadelphia, on Thursday, the 16th day of May, A. D. 1839, at 11 o'clock A. M.; and was opened with a sermon by the Rev. William S. Plumer, Moderator of the last Assembly, from Isaiah xli. 10: "Fear thou not, for I am with thee; be not dismayed, for I am thy God; I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

After the sermon the Moderator gave notice that as soon as the benediction was pronounced he would take the chair and proceed to the organization of the Assembly. The benediction being pronounced, the Moderator took the chair, and opened the meeting with prayer.

The Permanent Clerk, from the Standing Committee of Commissions, reported that the following persons, present, have been duly appointed and are hereby enrolled as Commissioners to this General Assembly, and laid their Commissions on the table, viz.:

I. OF THE SYNOD OF ALBANY.

PRESBYTERIES.	BISHOPS.	RULING ELDERS.
<i>Londonderry,</i>	Edward L. Parker (2),*	John Holms (2).
<i>Newburyport.</i>		
<i>Champlain.</i>		
<i>Troy,</i>	William D. Snodgrass (1),	Xenophon Haywood (1).
<i>Albany,</i>	Albert T. Chester,	Israel Williams.
	Eliphalet Nott.	
<i>Columbia.</i>		

II. OF THE SYNOD OF NEW YORK.

<i>Hudson,</i>	John J. Thompson,	Luther Harris.
	William Blain,	Thomas Houston.
<i>North River,</i>	John Johnston (1),	John W. Wells (1).
<i>Bedford,</i>	Jacob Green,	Abraham Smith.
<i>Long Island.</i>		
<i>Long Island 2d,</i>	Chester Long,	Isaac Baylis.
<i>New York,</i>	John Goldsmith,	Cyrenius Beers.
	John M. Krebs,	Gaius Fenn.
<i>New York 2d,</i>	William Marshall,	Charles M'Auley (5).
<i>New York 3d.</i>		

III. OF THE SYNOD OF NEW JERSEY.

<i>Newark.</i>		
<i>Elizabethtown,</i>	Abraham Williamson,	Samuel E. Woodbridge (1).
	David Magie (1),	Jonathan Towuley (4).
<i>New Brunswick,</i>	Archibald Alexander,	Samuel Bayard.
	Peter O. Studdiford,	Staey G. Potts.

* A figure attached to the name of a member shows that he was not *enrolled* by the Committee of Commissions in their report at the organization of the Assembly, but that he was subsequently enrolled and took his seat on that day of the sessions designated by the figure.

PRESBYTERIES.	BISHOPS.	RULING ELDERS.
<i>Newton,</i>	Jacob T. Field,	Thomas M'Kean.
<i>Susquehanna,</i>	David X. Junkin,	Joseph Wilson.
<i>Montrose.</i>	John Dorrance (1),	Ezra Hoyt (2).
<i>Caledonia,</i>	Isaac W. Platt (1).	

IV. OF THE SYNOD OF PHILADELPHIA.

<i>Philadelphia,</i>	Ashbel Green,	Alexander Symington.
	George W. Janvier,	Charles Woodward.
<i>Philadelphia 2d,</i>	Robert Steel,	William M. White.
<i>New Castle,</i>	George Burrows,	James Kelton.
	Robert P. Dubois,	John Long.
<i>Wilmington.</i>		
<i>Leves.</i>		
<i>Baltimore,</i>	John Breekinridge,	John Wilson.
<i>Carlisle,</i>	Henry R. Wilson,	Edward M. Donaldson.
	Daniel M'Kinley,	Jacob B. Hursh.
<i>Huntingdon,</i>	James Linn,	Henry Long.
<i>Northumberland,</i>	Isaac Grier (1),	James Rankin.

V. OF THE SYNOD OF PITTSBURGH.

<i>Blairsville,</i>	Shadraeh H. Terry,	Samuel Marshall.
<i>Redstone,</i>	William Johnston,	Nathaniel Ewing.
<i>Washington,</i>	Daniel Deruelle,	James M'Farren.
<i>Ohio,</i>	William Jeffrey,	John M. Snowden.
	Robert Dunlap,	Thomas Wilson.
<i>Allegheny,</i>	John R. Agnew,	Walter Lowrie.
<i>Steubenville,</i>	Charles C. Beatty,	Humphrey H. Leavitt.
<i>Beaver,</i>	Andrew O. Patterson.	
<i>Erie,</i>	David Waggoner (1).	
<i>New Lisbon,</i>	James Robertson (1),	John M'Connell (1).
<i>St. Clairsville,</i>	Salmon Cowles (1).	Matthew M'Coy.

VI. OF THE SYNOD OF MICHIGAN.

Detroit.
St. Joseph.
Monroe.

VII. OF THE SYNOD OF OHIO.

<i>Athens.</i>		
<i>Columbus,</i>	Thomas M. Chesnut,	Lewis Huber.
<i>Lancaster,</i>	William Wylie,	David Moore.
<i>Wooster,</i>	George Gordon (2),	Alexander Matthews.
<i>Richland,</i>	Henry Hervey,	George Knight.
<i>Marion,</i>	William D. Smith (1),	Thomas Henderson (1).

VIII. OF THE SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

<i>Chillicothe.</i>		
<i>Miami,</i>	Robert G. Linn,	Cyrus Johnston.
<i>Cincinnati,</i>	Joshua L. Wilson (1),	James Clark (1).
<i>Oxford,</i>	Thomas E. Hughes,	Joseph Markle.
<i>Sidney,</i>	George Van Eman.	

IX. OF THE SYNOD OF INDIANA.

PRESBYTERIES.	BISHOPS.	RULING ELDERS.
<i>Salem,</i>	William C. Anderson,	James Weir.
<i>Vincennes,</i>	James Crawford.	
<i>Madison,</i>	John F. Crowe.	
<i>Crawfordsville,</i>	Samuel H. M'Nutt (1).	
<i>Indianapolis,</i>	David Monfort,	Isaac Coe (4).
<i>Logansport,</i>	William K. Marshall,	James Finley (2).

X. OF THE SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.

<i>Illinois.</i>		
<i>Kaskaskia,</i>	Benjamin F. Spilman,	James A. Ramsay.
<i>Sangamon.</i>		
<i>Ottawa.</i>		
<i>Schuyler,</i>	James M. Chase,	Oakey M. Hoagland.
<i>Palestine.</i>		
<i>Peoria.</i>		
<i>Alton.</i>		

XI. OF THE SYNOD OF MISSOURI.

<i>Missouri.</i>	
<i>St. Louis.</i>	
<i>St. Charles,</i>	Hiram Chamberlain (1).

XII. OF THE SYNOD OF KENTUCKY.

<i>Louisville,</i>	William L. Breckinridge,	Charles S. Todd.
<i>Muhlenburg,</i>	John Lyle.	
<i>Transylvania,</i>	John C. Young.	
<i>West Lexington,</i>	Joseph J. Bullock,	John R. Alexander.
<i>Ebenezer,</i>	John T. Hendrick.	

XIII. OF THE SYNOD OF VIRGINIA.

<i>Lexington,</i>	James Morrison,	Matthew Houston.
	Stephen F. Cocke,	Frederick Johnston.
<i>Greenbrier,</i>	Joseph Crown,	Thomas Beard.
<i>Winchester,</i>	Septimus Tuston,	James H. Fitzgerald.
<i>Dist. of Columbia,</i>	Elias Harrison (1),	James M'Kenzie (1).
<i>West Hanover,</i>	John S. Watt,	Champe Carter.
	Isaac Cochran,	William G. Overton.
<i>East Hanover,</i>	William S. Plumer,	Hugh Nelson.
<i>Abingdon.</i>		

XIV. OF THE SYNOD OF NORTH CAROLINA.

<i>Roanoke,</i>	Drury Lacy,	John Bullock.
<i>Orange,</i>	Alexander Wilson,	Robert Ross.
<i>Fayetteville,</i>	Hector M'Lean,	Alexander Morrison.
<i>Concord,</i>	Daniel A. Penick,	John M'Culloch.
<i>Morganton,</i>	Frederick A. Nash.	

XV. OF THE SYNOD OF TENNESSEE.

<i>Union.</i>		
<i>French Broad.</i>		
<i>Holston,</i>	Samuel H. Doak (1),	George Hale (1).

XVI. OF THE SYNOD OF WEST TENNESSEE.

PRESBYTERIES.	BISHOPS.	RULING ELDERS.
<i>West Tennessee.</i>		
<i>Nashville,</i>	John T. Edgar,	William Hadley.
<i>Shiloh.</i>		
<i>North Alabama.</i>		
<i>Western District,</i>	Alexander A. Campbell,	John Johnston.

XVII. OF THE SYNOD OF SOUTH CAROLINA AND GEORGIA.

<i>South Carolina,</i>	John L. Kennedy.	
<i>Bethel,</i>	Pierpoint E. Bishop.	
<i>Harmony,</i>	Robert B. Campbell,	Lawrence Prince.
<i>Charleston Union,</i>	Thomas Smyth,	Hugh Wilson.
<i>Georgia,</i>	Charles C. Jones (4).	
<i>Hopewell,</i>	Samuel S. Davis (2).	
<i>Flint River,</i>	John S. Wilson,	Robert A. Ware.

XVIII. OF THE SYNOD OF ALABAMA.

<i>South Alabama,</i>	Elon O. Martin (6),	Robert F. Witherspoon.
<i>Tuscaloosa,</i>	Daniel Baker,	John R. Witherspoon.
<i>Tombeckbee,</i>	Daniel L. Russell.	

XIX. OF THE SYNOD OF MISSISSIPPI.

<i>Mississippi,</i>	Zebulon Butler.	
<i>Clinton,</i>	Frederick S. Ernst (1),	John Allsworth (1).
<i>Arkansas.</i>		
<i>Louisiana,</i>	Archy B. Lawrence,	James Beattie.

No delegates appeared from corresponding bodies.

The Committee of Commissions further reported that the Rev. Isaac Grier, of the Presbytery of Northumberland, is present without a commission.

The committee further reported that commissions in due form have been presented to them by the following persons present, as Commissioners to this General Assembly from Presbyteries whose Commissioners to the General Assembly of 1838 aided or concurred in forming the secession from the General Assembly; which commissions and the accompanying documents, were submitted to the disposal of the Assembly, according to the resolution of the last General Assembly (*Minutes* p. 41), for such cases made and provided, viz.:

PRESBYTERIES.	BISHOPS.	RULING ELDERS.
<i>Troy,</i>	William D. Snodgrass,	Xenophon Haywood.
<i>North River,</i>	John Johnston,	John W. Wells.
<i>Erie,</i>	David Waggoner.	
<i>Marion,</i>	William D. Smith,	Thomas Henderson.
<i>Cincinnati,</i>	Joshua L. Wilson,	James Clark.
<i>Crawfordsville,</i>	Samuel H. M'Nutt.	
<i>St. Charles,</i>	Hiram Chamberlain.	
<i>Holston,</i>	Samuel H. Doak,	George Hale.
<i>Clinton,</i>	Frederick S. Ernst,	John Allsworth.
<i>Dist. of Columbia,</i>	Elias Harrison,	James M'Kenzie.

The Committee further reported, that the following persons have presented commissions from new Presbyteries, viz.:

PRESBYTERIES.	BISHOPS.	RULING ELDERS.
<i>Caledonia,</i>	Isaac W. Platt.	
<i>New Lisbon,</i>	James Robertson,	John M'Connel.
<i>St. Clairsville,</i>	Salmon Cowles,	Matthew M'Coy.

After the report of the Committee of Commissions had been read, the Moderator gave notice to such Commissioners as were present, but had not had an opportunity of presenting their commissions, that they might now be presented to the Committee of Commissions.

On motion, Messrs. A. Alexander, J. S. Wilson, and Leavitt were appointed a Committee of Elections, to whom were referred the cases of the Commissioners reported, but not enrolled by the Committee of Commissions.

And then the Assembly took a recess till this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Thursday afternoon, 4 o'clock.

The Assembly met.

The Committee of Commissions reported the following additional Commissioners—viz. Rev. David Magie, and Samuel E. Woodbridge, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Elizabethtown; and Rev. John Dorrance, from the Presbytery of Susquehanna; who were enrolled.

The Committee of Elections made a report, which was accepted and adopted, as follows, viz.:

That they have examined the several commissions, to them referred, of Commissioners coming from minorities of Presbyteries which have continued the succession of their Presbyteries by their proper name and style, according to the provisions of Section 3 of Act I. of the last General Assembly, (*Minutes*, p. 36,) and do find them all duly executed. The committee therefore recommend that the Commissioners from the following Presbyteries be enrolled as members of the Assembly—to wit, the Commissioners from the Presbyteries of Troy, North River, Erie, Marion, Cincinnati, Crawfordsville, St. Charles, Holston, Clinton, and District of Columbia.

The committee also further report that the new Presbyteries of Caledonia, in the Synod of New Jersey, and of New Lisbon and St. Clairsville, in the Synod of Pittsburgh, have been regularly constituted by their respective Synods, as will be seen by reference to their minutes, and in accordance with the rule of the General Assembly in such cases made and provided. In reference to these Presbyteries the committee recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the Presbyteries of Caledonia, New Lisbon, and St. Clairsville be recognized by the Assembly.

Resolved, That the Rev. Isaac W. Platt, from the Presbytery of Caledonia, and the Rev. James Robertson, and John M'Connel, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of New Lisbon, and the Rev. Salmon Cowles, and Matthew M'Coy, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of St. Clairsville, be enrolled as members of this Assembly.

The committee also report that they have received satisfactory evidence that the Rev. Isaac Grier, from the Presbytery of Northumberland, who has appeared without a commission, has been duly appointed a Commissioner to the present Assembly, and accordingly recommend that his name be enrolled.

The Rev. Joshua L. Wilson was elected Moderator, and the Rev. Jacob Green, Temporary Clerk.

The docket was presented by the Stated Clerk and read.

The printed minutes of the last Assembly were presented by the Stated Clerk, and distributed to the members.

On motion, Ordered, That the Permanent Clerk cause to be printed, for the use of the Assembly, 500 copies of the roll.

A letter was received and read, from the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connection with the Church of Scotland.

On motion, Ordered, That the letter be printed in the Appendix, and that a copy be allowed for publication as soon as practicable in any religious paper that may desire it.

On motion of Mr. Bayard,

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to reply to the same.

On motion of E. Nott,

Resolved, That a committee on the state of the Church be appointed, consisting of one member from each of the Synods represented in this Assembly.

And then the Assembly adjourned till to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday morning, May 17th, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

On motion, the calling of the roll was omitted.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee of Commissions reported the following additional Commissioners—viz. Ezra Hoyt, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Susquehanna, and Rev. George Gordon, from the Presbytery of Wooster; who were enrolled.

The committee further reported that the Rev. Samuel S. Davis, of the Presbytery of Hopewell, and James Finley, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Logansport, have appeared without commissions. These cases were referred to the Committee of Elections.

The Moderator announced the following committees, viz. :

On Bills and Overtures.—Messrs. Snodgrass, C. C. Beatty, Hughes, J. Morrison, Lawrence, Harris, Symington, S. Marshall, Ramsay, and H. Wilson.

Judicial Committee.—Messrs. H. R. Wilson, Wylie, Monfort, W. L. Breckinridge, A. Wilson, Haywood, Woodbridge, Weir, and M. Houston.

On Leave of Absence.—Messrs. Williamson, Chesnut, Lyle, F. Johnston, and Prince.

On Mileage.—Messrs. Symington, Fenn, and Williams.

Devotional Exercises.—Messrs. Janvier, Kennedy, and Baylis.

On the Narrative of the State of Religion.—Messrs. J. Breckinridge, Crowe, Spilman, J. R. Alexander, and J. R. Witherspoon.

On the State of the Church.—Messrs. Nott, Plumer, Studdiford, Ewing, Anderson, Chamberlain, Doak, J. S. Wilson, Ernst, T. Houston, Woodward, Huber, C. Johnston, Hoagland, Todd, J. Bullock, Hadley, and R. F. Witherspoon.

To Reply to the Letter from the Presbyterian Synod of Canada.—Messrs. A. Green, Edgar, Patterson, and Bayard.

On Synodical records, viz. :

Albany.—Messrs. Thompson, J. Linn, and Clark.

New York.—Messrs. Chester, Terry, and Moore.

New Jersey.—Messrs. Blain, Van Eman, and Beard.

Philadelphia.—Messrs. J. Johnston (bishop), R. G. Linn, and Ross.

Pittsburgh.—Messrs. C. Long, Chase, and Matthews.

Michigan.—Messrs. Magie, Newry, and Markle.

Ohio.—Messrs. Goldsmith, Crawford, and Wells.

Cincinnati.—Messrs. W. Marshall, M'Kinley, and Ware.

Indiana.—Messrs. Dorrance, W. Johnston, and A. Smith.

Illinois—Messrs. Platt, W. D. Smith, and A. Morrison.

Missouri—Messrs. Field, Deruelle, and M'Kean.

Kentucky—Messrs. Dubois, Waggoner, and Joseph Wilson.

Virginia—Messrs. Grier, M'Nutt, and White.

North Carolina—Messrs. Jeffrey, W. K. Marshall, and Kelton.

Tennessee—Messrs. Dunlap, Lyle, and J. Long.

West Tennessee—Messrs. Agnew, Bishop, and John Wilson.

South Carolina and Georgia—Messrs. Robertson, Lacy, and Donaldson.

Alabama—Messrs. Cowles, Hendrick, and Fitzgerald.

Mississippi—Messrs. Cocke, M'Lean, and J. Johnston (ruling elder).

The Committee of Elections reported that they had received satisfactory evidence of the appointment of the Rev. Samuel S. Davis, of the Presbytery of Hopewell, and of James Finley, ruling elder, of the Presbytery of Logansport, and recommended that their names be enrolled. The report was adopted.

On motion of J. Breekinridge,

Resolved, That this Assembly will celebrate, with appropriate religious solemnities, the 21st day of May instant, as the fiftieth anniversary of the organization of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, with particular reference to the many and signal blessings and deliverances which God has vouchsafed to our beloved Church in its whole history, and especially to that recent deliverance over which we now rejoice.

Resolved, That the exercises proposed for that occasion be considered as coming in the stead of those usually performed on Wednesday afternoon.

Resolved, That the Committee on Devotional Exercises be a committee of arrangements for the anniversary aforesaid.

On motion of W. S. Plumer,

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to prepare an address to our churches on the subject of the maintenance of doctrinal purity, in opposition to the various forms of error which are spreading in different parts of the land.

A communication from the Board of Trustees of the General Assembly in relation to certain legal proceedings was received and read; and on motion it was referred to the Committee on the State of the Church.

And then the Assembly adjourned till this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday afternoon, May 17th, 4 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

On motion, Ordered, That the calling of the roll at the opening of the sessions be omitted until otherwise ordered.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee of Commissions reported the following additional Commissioners, who were enrolled—viz. Rev. Edward L. Parker, and Mr. John Holmes, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Londonderry.

The Moderator announced the committee to prepare an address to the churches on the maintenance of doctrinal purity—viz. Messrs. Plumer, A. Alexander, Monfort, Lowrie, and Todd.

On motion, it was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning to receive the narratives from the Presbyteries on the state of religion.

On motion, the Synodical records were called for, and ordered to be put into the hands of the respective committees.

The Permanent Clerk reported that there had been put into his hands the following items of judicial business—viz. a protest of the minority of the Synod of Cincinnati, and a complaint of A. D. Metcalf and others against the Synod of Virginia, which were referred to the Judicial Committee.

The annual report of the Directors of the Western Theological Seminary was presented, read, accepted, and referred to Messrs. J. J. Bullock, Tuston, Potts, and Patterson.

The committee in relation to funds for the payment of professors' salaries in the Theological Seminary at Princeton reported that they had received for this object during the year, from Rev. James C. Barnes of Dayton, Ohio, ten dollars.

The Stated Clerk reported that he had received one hundred copies of the Minutes of the General Association of Massachusetts, which were ordered to be distributed to the members.

The committee of arrangements for the anniversary exercises of Tuesday afternoon next made a report, which was amended and adopted, as follows, viz.:

1. By the Moderator of the General Assembly, invocation and reading of Isaiah, chapter ix.
2. Psalmody, by J. T. Edgar.
3. Address, by A. Green, on the prominent events in the history of the Presbyterian Church connected with this anniversary.
4. Prayer and Thanksgiving, by J. Breckinridge.
5. Psalmody, by R. Steel.
6. Address, by A. Alexander.
7. Prayer, by T. Smyth.
8. Psalmody, by I. W. Platt.
9. Address, by J. C. Young.
10. Doxology and benediction, by W. D. Snodgrass.

On motion, the subject of Presbyterian ministers being pastors of Congregational churches, referred by the last General Assembly, was taken up and committed to Messrs. A. Green, Young, and Snowden.

And then the Assembly adjourned till to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday morning, May 18th, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

On motion, *Resolved*, 1. That the celebration of the semi-centenary anniversary of the organization of the General Assembly be the order of the day for 10 o'clock A. M., on Tuesday next.

2. That the reception of the annual reports of the Boards appointed by the General Assembly be made the order of the day, as follows, viz.:

The report of the Board of Education, on Wednesday next at 10 o'clock A. M.

Of the Board of Domestic Missions, on Thursday next at 10 o'clock, A. M.

Of the Board of Foreign Missions, on Friday next at 10 o'clock, A. M.

Of the Board of Publication of Tracts and Sunday-School Books, on Saturday next at 10 o'clock, A. M.

The annual report of the Directors of the Union Theological Seminary was presented, read, approved, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day, when the narratives of Presbyteries on the state of religion were called for, and ordered to be put into the hands of the Committee on the Narrative.

The committee on purchasing the property belonging to the Seventh Church in this city, appointed by the last Assembly, made a report, which was accepted, and on motion, the committee was discharged.

A. Alexander, from the committee to revise the psalms and hymns, appointed by the last Assembly, made a report, which was accepted, and on motion it was committed to Messrs. Edgar, Butler, and Hursh.

The report of J. Whetham, agent for publishing the arranged edition of the Psalms and Hymns, was presented, read, and referred to the above-named committee.

On motion, the subject of electing delegates to corresponding bodies was taken up, and immediately laid on the table.

On motion, the subject of appointing a place for the meeting of the next General Assembly was taken up, and made the order of the day for Monday afternoon.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overtures Nos. 1 and 2, which were entered on the docket, viz.:

No. 1. From the Presbytery of Baltimore, on the form of admitting private members, and a directory for adult baptism.

No. 2. On the admission of members to churches in connection with the body which has lately departed from us.

On motion, the reference from the last General Assembly (*Minutes*, p. 47)—viz. on the form of admitting church members—was taken up, and referred to Messrs. C. C. Beatty, Davis, Brown, H. Long, and M'Connel.

On motion, Overture No. 1 was taken up, read, and referred to the above-named committee.

On motion, Overture No. 2 was taken up, read, and referred to the Committee on the State of the Church.

An invitation was received from the Inspectors of the Eastern State Penitentiary of Pennsylvania to visit that institution; and it was accepted for this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

And then the Assembly adjourned until Monday morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday morning, May 20th, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures reported Overtures Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12, viz.:

No. 3. From the Synod of Philadelphia and the Presbytery of Carlisle in relation to the division of the Synod of Philadelphia.

No. 4. From the Synod of Philadelphia in relation to the Presbyterian Tract and Sabbath-school Book Society.

No. 5. From the Synod of Philadelphia and the Presbytery of Cincinnati in relation to ministers without charge.

No. 6. From a convention of ministers in the Synod of Missouri, asking advice.

No. 7. From the Presbytery of Peoria, reporting their formation and requesting to be recognized.

No. 8. From the Presbytery of Ogdensburg, reporting their formation and asking advice as to their Synodical relation.

No. 9. From the Presbytery of Mississippi, in relation to the propriety of designating in the Presbyterian reports the Missionaries of our two Missionary Boards by appropriate abbreviations.

No. 10. From the Synod of Mississippi in relation to the organization of a Presbytery in Texas.

No. 11. From the Presbytery of Miami in relation to the office of deacon.

No. 12. From the Synod of Cincinnati and the Presbytery of Oxford in relation to the subject of slavery.

On motion, No. 6 was referred to the Committee on the State of the Church; No. 10 was referred to Messrs. Steel, Baker, and Beard; No. 12 was laid on the table; and Nos. 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, and 11 were entered on the docket.

The Committee on the State of the Church made a report, in part, which was accepted, and on motion it was made the second order of the day for this afternoon; and it was ordered that 250 copies be printed for the use of the Assembly.

The Committee on the State of the Church made a further report, which was accepted and adopted, as follows, viz.:

The Committee on the State of the Church, to whom was referred the report of the Trustees of the General Assembly in reference to the steps taken by them in defending the suits brought against them and others by those who have gone out from us, beg leave to report the following resolutions for the adoption of the General Assembly:

1. That the report of the Trustees be copied into the minutes.
2. That the General Assembly approve and ratify what has been done by their Trustees in the premises.
3. That the Trustees be and they are hereby instructed to continue to take such measures as may be necessary to bring the said suits to a close, and that the faith of the churches in connection with the General Assembly be, and it is hereby renewedly, pledged to indemnify them.
4. That all Presbyteries in our connection who have not already done so be and they are hereby requested to take such steps as may be necessary to raise their respective proportions of the expenses which have been incurred, or which may still be incurred, by the Trustees in bringing the whole matter to a final issue.

The communication from the Board of Trustees, referred to in the foregoing resolutions, is as follows, viz.:

Board of Trustees of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

TO THE REV. JOSHUA L. WILSON, D. D.:

Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America:

By direction of the Board of Trustees, I beg leave to transmit to the General Assembly the enclosed statement of the Board of Trustees, together with a copy of the report of a committee of the Board referred to in the said statement.

With great respect,

JAMES BAYARD, *Secretary.*

On the 31st of May, 1838, the Board of Trustees had the honor to communicate to the General Assembly that an application had been made to them by Messrs. James Todd, John R. Neff, Frederick A. Raybold, William Darling, Thomas Fleming, and George W. McClelland, claiming to be members of the Board in the places of the Rev. Dr. Green and others, and that the Board had respectfully declined receiving those gentlemen as members of the corporation. The General Assembly thereupon adopted a resolution in the following words: "*Resolved*, That the Trustees of the General Assembly be instructed to take all such measures as to them shall seem needful for asserting, defending, and securing the rights and interests of the Church confided to their care; and that the faith of the several churches in connection with the General Assembly be and it is hereby pledged to the said Trustees to indemnify and save them harmless from the loss or damage by reason of their action in conformity with the instructions of this body."

On the 2d of June, 1838, a writ of quo warranto, at the relation of five of the gentlemen above referred to, issued from the Supreme Court of this Commonwealth, addressed to the Rev. Drs. Green and Cuyler and Messrs.

Latta, Allen, and Bradford, requiring them to show by what authority they continued to exercise the functions of incorporators in this Board. This proceeding was understood by the Board to fall within the scope of the resolution of the Assembly; and the committee which had been before appointed "to advise with the officers of the Board during the recesses of the Board, touching its interests, with power to employ counsel," proceeded accordingly to make such defence as the circumstances in their view required. The report of the committee, detailing its proceedings and their result up to the present time, is herewith submitted.

Three other suits, in which the Rev. Miles P. Squier, Henry Brown, Esq., and the Rev. Philip C. Hay are severally plaintiffs, and the Rev. Dr. David Elliott, Rev. Dr. John M'Dowell, Rev. John M. Krebs, Rev. Dr. William S. Plumer, and Rev. Robert J. Breckinridge are joined as defendants, were instituted at about the same time, and are still pending. It is the declared object of these suits to test, in another manner, the propriety of the Assembly's action on the questions that have recently been before them. The Trustees, by their committee, have therefore caused appearances to be entered in them by counsel, and will take such further measures in regard to them as may be necessary for defending the rights and interests of the Church.

The General Assembly will not fail to remark, from the tenor of the report which accompanies this communication, that the funds in the charge of the Board of Trustees have not been, in their judgment, legally applicable to the expenses of the recent and yet pending litigation. It became necessary, therefore, to avail themselves of the credit of the General Assembly, as pledged by its resolution of 31st May last, and to borrow a considerable amount from individual friends of the Church as a special fund. It is most respectfully suggested that some measures should be taken by the Assembly at an early day, to enable the Board to reimburse the moneys thus loaned, as well as to defray the further expenses which future circumstances may render necessary.

By order of the Board,

ASHBEL GREEN, *President.*

JAMES BAYARD, *Secretary.*

Philadelphia, 15th May, 1839.

Report of Committee of the Board of Trustees of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America (referred to in the foregoing).

The committee authorized by the resolution passed by the Board on the 6th of June, 1838, "to take order in the name and behalf of this corporation in all matters touching its interests which may require action in the intervals of its meetings, so far as the same can lawfully be done without the direct agency of the Board," report:

That, considering their appointment to have especial reference to the suit instituted in the name of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, at the relation of James Todd and others, against Ashbel Green and others, members of this Board, for the purpose of trying their right to be considered members of the Board, the committee have directed their attention particularly to this object. In execution of the duty confided to them, they took immediate steps to secure the professional services of John Sergeant, Esq., as counsel in said suit, and two members of the committee entered their appearance for the defendants, prepared and filed pleas on their behalf, and attended to other preliminary arrangements until other counsel should be retained. In this stage of the business it became necessary to provide funds to defray the expenses which would necessarily be incurred in defending the suit, none of

the trust funds held by the Board being applicable to this purpose. This was reported to the Board at its meeting held on the 17th of September, 1838, and provision being made for the collection of funds for this purpose, the committee applied to J. R. Ingersoll and F. W. Hubbell, Esqs., to act as counsel with Mr. Sergeant. The committee afterwards appointed the Rev. Dr. William M. Engles agent of the Board to attend to the details of the suit, confer with the counsel, procure the attendance of witnesses, make arrangements for their accommodation while in the city, etc., which office was accepted by that gentleman; and the committee take this opportunity to bear testimony to the zeal and fidelity with which he performed the duties imposed upon him. The case was marked for trial in November (by direction of the plaintiffs' attorney), and both parties were in attendance with their witnesses at that time; but in consequence of a suggestion of the judge then presiding it was continued until March. During the session of the Supreme Court in December the Court, on the application of the plaintiffs, allotted a particular day (Monday, the 4th of March, 1839) for the commencement of the trial of this case. Before that day, the committee having been informed that Mr. Sergeant would not be able, from the state of his health, to take part in the trial of the cause, immediately upon the adjournment of Congress, of which he was a member, secured the services of William C. Preston, Esq., of South Carolina, who acted with Messrs. Hubbell and Ingersoll. The trial commenced on Tuesday, the 5th of March, before Judge Rogers at *Nisi Prius*, and occupied three weeks, when the jury brought in a verdict against the defendants, in accordance with the charge delivered by the presiding judge. A motion for a new trial was made in the Supreme Court by Mr. Hubbell, on behalf of the defendants, and the Court appointed Wednesday, the 24th of April, for the argument. This motion was argued before the Supreme Court by Mr. Hubbell and Mr. Sergeant, on behalf of the defendants, and the Court this day, May 8th, pronounced judgment awarding a new trial, on grounds so completely favorable to the defendants that it is not probable that any further action will be had in the case on the part of the plaintiffs.

The case appears to be thus happily terminated; but, inasmuch as other proceedings may yet be instituted which may require the further action of the committee, they forbear to recommend that the committee be discharged.

On behalf of the committee.

(Signed)

ASHBEL GREEN, *Chairman*.

Philadelphia, May 8th, 1839.

The Stated Clerk made a report on the subject of printing the minutes of the Presbyterian Church in this country from its commencement, which was accepted; whereupon it was *Resolved*, That the Stated Clerk be authorized to furnish the original Minutes of the Presbyterian Church from its commencement to any publisher with whom he may contract, for the purpose of printing, if in the judgment of the said Clerk proper care be taken of them.

The report of Mr. Solomon Allen, agent for publishing the Assembly's Psalms and Hymns, was presented, read, and referred to Messrs. Edgar, Butler, and Hursh.

On motion of A. Alexander, *Resolved*, That this General Assembly, approving the object of the American Colonization Society, and rejoicing in the success which by a gracious Providence has been granted to this benevolent enterprise thus far, would renew the recommendation to the churches under their care, formerly made, to take up a collection to aid the funds of said society, on or about the fourth day of July, annually.

The committee to whom was referred the report of the Board of Directors

of the Western Theological Seminary, made a report, which was adopted, as follows, viz.:

1. *Resolved*, That the report of the Board of Directors be approved and printed in the Appendix to the *Minutes*.

2. *Resolved*, That the sum of \$5000 be appropriated by the General Assembly for the current year to pay professors' salaries and to meet other expenses of the Seminary.

3. *Resolved*, That as this Seminary, which is the institution of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, has received but very little pecuniary aid out of the bounds of the Synod of Pittsburgh, and as it is now laboring under embarrassments for want of means to sustain it, it be and it is hereby earnestly recommended to our churches to contribute in aid of its funds.

On motion, nominations were made for Directors of the Western Theological Seminary, and the election was made the order of the day for Wednesday afternoon.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 13—viz. from the Synod of Mississippi, and also from the Presbytery of Tombeckbee, in relation to the adjustment of the line between the Synods of Mississippi and Alabama.

On motion, No. 13 was referred to Messrs. Gordon, A. A. Campbell, H. Long, Lawrence, and J. R. Witherspoon.

On motion, Overture No. 11 was taken up and read, and it was *Resolved*, That in the judgment of this Assembly our standards are sufficiently explicit on the subject of the office of deacon, without further directions to our churches.

On motion, Overtures Nos. 7 and 8 were taken up, read, and referred to the Committee on the State of the Church.

On motion, the Committee on the State of the Church were instructed to take into consideration the case of those Presbyteries whose Commissioners aided in forming the secession from this body (*Minutes*, 1838, pp. 21, 22), and also the case of the Synods of Michigan, Missouri, and Tennessee (*Minutes*, 1838, p. 38).

On motion, Overture No. 3 was taken up, read, and indefinitely postponed.

On motion, Overture No. 5 was taken up, read, and referred to Messrs. Snodgrass, Penick, Russell, Potts, and M'Farren.

On motion, Overture No. 9 was taken up, read, and referred to Messrs. Parker, J. Johnston (bishop), and Rankin.

On motion of Mr. Russell, *Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to prepare a pastoral letter, addressed to our congregations, in relation to the present state of the Church.

Messrs. Russell, Nash, Harrison, Leavitt, and Hoyt were appointed the committee.

The committees on the records of the Synods of Indiana and Virginia severally reported, and on motion the records respectively were approved.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Missouri reported that the records had not been put into their hands. The report was accepted, and the committee were discharged.

On motion, the Assembly reconsidered the vote making it the order of the day for this afternoon to appoint a place for the next General Assembly. The subject was taken up, nominations were made, and it was *Resolved*, That the next General Assembly be required to meet in the Seventh or Assembly Church in the city of Philadelphia.

A satisfactory communication was received from the Session and congregation of the Assembly Church in this city respecting the occupancy of the

house by the General Assembly, and on motion it was *Ordered* to be filed among the papers of the Assembly.

And then the Assembly adjourned until this afternoon at 4 o'clock.
Concluded with prayer.

Monday afternoon, 4 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee of Commissions reported the following additional Commissioners, who were enrolled—viz. Rev. Charles C. Jones, from the Presbytery of Georgia; Mr. Isaac Coe, ruling elder, of the Presbytery of Indianapolis; and Mr. Jonathan Townley, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Elizabethtown.

The Judicial Committee reported Judicial Business Nos. 1 and 2—viz. No. 1. A protest of the minority of the Synod of Cincinnati against certain doings of said Synod; on which the committee, at the request of the party most interested, recommended that leave be granted to withdraw the paper. No. 2. The complaint of A. D. Metcalf and others, against the Synod of Virginia, which the committee recommend to be taken up and disposed of in the order prescribed by the Book of Discipline. The report was adopted.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Illinois reported. The report was accepted and the records were approved.

The committees on the records of the Synods of West Tennessee and of South Carolina and Georgia severally reported that the respective records had not been put into their hands. The reports were accepted and the committees were discharged.

On motion, the Assembly proceeded to the order of the day—viz. the report, in part, of the Committee on the State of the Church. It was moved to adopt the same, and after debate,

The Assembly adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday morning, May 21st, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The committees on the records of the Synods of Alabama and North Carolina severally reported. On motion, the reports were severally accepted and the records respectively were approved.

The committee on Overture No. 9 made a report, which was adopted as follows, viz.:

Resolved, That in the Presbyterian reports the missionaries of the Foreign Board of Missions be designated by the letters F. M., and those of the Domestic Board by the letters D. M., and be thus entered on the Statistical Table of the General Assembly.

The annual report of the Directors of the Theological Seminary at Princeton was presented, read, and, on motion, it was accepted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix.

On motion, nominations were made for Directors of the Theological Seminary at Princeton, and the election was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

The annual report of the Trustees of the Theological Seminary at Princeton was presented, read, and, on motion, it was accepted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the sum of \$7300 be appropriated for the payment of the salaries of professors in the Theological Seminary at Princeton.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Tennessee reported that they had not been put into their hands. The report was accepted and the committee was discharged.

On motion, the unfinished business of yesterday—viz. the report of the Committee on the State of the Church—was resumed, and further considered. After debate, the Assembly proceeded to the order of the day, and attended upon the religious exercises prescribed for the celebration of the semi-centenary anniversary of the organization of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

After the religious exercises the unfinished business was resumed, when, on motion, the report was recommitted to the Committee on the State of the Church, and W. L. Breckinridge was added to the committee.

And then the Assembly adjourned until this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday afternoon, 4 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee of Commissions reported an additional Commissioner, who was enrolled—viz. Charles M'Auley, ruling elder, from the 2d Presbytery of New York.

On motion, *Resolved*, That A. Green be requested to furnish a copy of his address, delivered this morning at the anniversary exercises, for publication.

The committee to whom were referred Overture No. 1 and Minute No. 1, referred by the last Assembly, reported. On motion, the report was accepted, and laid on the table.

The Committee on the State of the Church again reported, in part. Their report was accepted, and adopted as follows, viz.:

Be it Resolved by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America—

1. That this body considers itself and the Church at large bound—as both have been not only willing, but desirous—to adjust all claims against the corporate property of the Church, whether legal or equitable, in the most prompt, fair, and liberal manner.

2. That this is especially the case touching any claims which may exist on the part of the four Synods of Utica, Geneva, Genesee, and the Western Reserve, declared in 1837 to be no part of the Presbyterian Church, or on the part of those who seceded from the Church in 1833, or on the part of any body constituted out of the whole or any part of these elements. And that, in regard to all and each of these bodies and persons, the Assembly will faithfully adhere to any pledge or promise, express or implied, which it can justly be construed ever to have made, and will fulfill every expectation which it ever knowingly allowed to be cherished.

3. The Trustees of the Assembly are hereby authorized and requested to do, on the part of this Assembly, should occasion offer, whatever is lawful, competent, and equitable in the premises, conformable to the principles and in the manner heretofore laid down in the *Minutes* of this Assembly for 1837 and 1838, so far as relates to the corporate property of the Church or any equities springing out of the same.

4. With reference to all institutions, corporations, congregations, and other public persons or bodies in connection with us, but holding property for ecclesiastical purposes or for religious and benevolent uses, which property is not subject to the control of the Assembly, although the said persons, institutions, or congregations may be, in all such cases where difficulties relating to property have arisen or shall arise, in consequence of the long and painful

disorders and divisions in our Church, we advise all our members and friends to act on the general principles heretofore laid down, and with the spirit of candor, forbearance, and equity which has dictated this Act.

5. The Assembly reiterates the declaration, that its chief desire, on all this part of our Church troubles, is to do even and ready justice to and between all persons and interests over which it has any control or in regard to which it has any duty to perform.

The Committee on the State of the Church made a further report. Their report was accepted, and considered in part.

And the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday morning, May 22d, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave of absence to Messrs. Knight, Nelson, and Alexander Matthews. The report was accepted and approved.

The report of the Trustees of the General Assembly was presented, read, accepted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix.

The Treasurer of the Trustees of the General Assembly laid their book of accounts on the table.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day—viz. the election of Directors of the Princeton Theological Seminary. Messrs. Harrison, Jones, and M'Auley were appointed a committee to receive and count the ballots and report the result.

On motion, the Assembly resumed the unfinished business of yesterday—viz. the further report of the Committee on the State of the Church, which was further considered; and, on motion, it was indefinitely postponed.

On motion, the Assembly proceeded to the order of the day—viz. the reception of the annual report of the Board of Education. The report was presented and read by the Corresponding Secretary, and accepted. Addresses were made on the subject; and, on motion, the report was referred to Messrs. Young, A. Alexander, and M'Kenzie.

The committee to receive and count the ballots for Directors of the Princeton Theological Seminary, reported, when it appeared that the following persons were elected for three years, viz.:

BISHOPS.

John M'Dowell,
Benjamin H. Rice,
William B. Sprague,
Cornelius C. Cuyler,
George Potts,
Elias W. Crane,
John N. Campbell.

RULING ELDERS.

Benjamin Strong,
Samuel Bayard,
Matthew L. Bevan.

On motion, nominations to fill vacancies in the Board of Education were made, and the election was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning.

An overture on the subject of the expenses of the lawsuit was offered by J. Breckinridge; and, on motion, it was referred to Messrs. Steel, Watt, and Thomas Wilson.

J. Breckinridge offered a series of resolutions in relation to the appointment of a day of thanksgiving, which were read, and, on motion, were made the order of the day for to-morrow afternoon.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Philadelphia reported in favor of their being approved. The report was adopted.

And then the Assembly adjourned until this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday afternoon, 4 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day—viz. the election of Directors of the Western Theological Seminary. Messrs. Nash and Hendrick were appointed a committee to receive and count the ballots, and report the result.

The committee on the records of the Synod of New Jersey reported in favor of their being approved. The report was adopted.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Pittsburgh reported that they had not been put into their hands. The report was accepted, and the committee was discharged.

The committee to receive and count the ballots for Directors of the Western Theological Seminary reported, when it appeared that the following persons were elected, viz. :

For Three Years.

BISHOPS.

Francis Herron,
Elisha T. Swift,
Matthew Brown,
William B. M'Ilvaine,
John Stockton,
Henry R. Weed,
Ebenezer Graham.

RULING ELDERS.

Samuel Thompson,
Benjamin Williams,
Robert C. Grier.

For One Year.

Robert Dilworth.

On motion, Judicial Business No. 2—viz. the complaint of A. D. Metcalf, etc. against the Synod of Virginia, for deciding that appeals may lie in cases not judicial—was taken up. The decision complained of, the reasons of complaint assigned by the complainants, and the whole record of the Synod in the case, were read. The complainants were heard in support of their complaint. The Synod were heard in defence of their decision. The roll was called, that each member of the Assembly might have an opportunity of expressing his opinion. After which the vote was taken and the complaint was *sustained*.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Albany reported in favor of their being approved, with the exception of a manifest want of care in transcribing the minutes. The report was adopted.

The committee on Overture No. 10 made a report, which was adopted as follows, viz. :

Resolved, That the subject of organizing a Presbytery in Texas be referred to the Synod of Mississippi, with advice to organize a Presbytery as soon as the interests of religion seem to require it.

The committee on the overture in regard to the expenses of the lawsuit made a report. On motion, the report was accepted, and after consideration, it was recommitted.

And then the Assembly adjourned till to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday morning, May 23d, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee of Commissions reported an additional Commissioner, who was enrolled—viz. Rev. Elon O. Martin, of the Presbytery of South Alabama.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave of absence to Messrs. Williams, Field, and Nott. The report was accepted and approved.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures reported Overtures Nos. 14, 15, and 16, which were accepted and entered on the docket—viz. No. 14, on the subject of stated supplies; No. 15, from the Board of Foreign Missions in reference to an alteration in the Executive Committee, and an increase in the number of the vice-presidents of the Board; No. 16, an overture relating to the subject of dismissals to foreign bodies.

On motion, the Assembly proceeded to the order of the day—viz. the election of persons to fill vacancies in the Board of Education. Messrs. Nash, Platt, and Tuston were appointed a committee to receive and count the ballots and report the result.

On motion, the Assembly proceeded to the order of the day for 10 o'clock,—viz. the reception of the annual report of the Board of Domestic Missions. The report was presented and read by the Corresponding Secretary and accepted. Addresses were made on the subject; and, on motion, the report was referred to Messrs. Smyth, Platt, and Holms.

On motion, nominations to fill vacancies in the Board of Domestic Missions were made; and the election was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Kentucky reported in favor of their being approved, with the exception that on page 118 the Synod appear to have finally adjourned without prayer. The report was adopted.

And then the Assembly adjourned until this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday afternoon, 4 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The committee on the records of the Synod of New York reported in favor of their being approved. The report was adopted.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Cincinnati, reported; and, on motion, the records were approved, with the following exceptions—viz. 1st, on page 108 the Synod decide "that the Synods of Utica, Geneva, and Genesee were and still are constitutional branches of the Presbyterian Church;" 2d, on pages 114–116 it appears that, on a motion being made to require the Presbytery of Chillicothe to produce the records of their proceedings at their sessions in September, 1837 (the month prior to the meeting of Synod), which records were reported to contain decisions demanding the immediate review of the Synod, it was decided "that as there was no complaint nor appeal requiring the records in question, and as the Presbytery have regularly presented their book for review by the Synod, and the committee of review has made no charge of delinquency in the Presbytery in not transcribing the minutes of their late meeting, the Synod have no right to demand said minutes;" 3d, on pages 116 and 117 a resolution declaring "null and void the ordination of two men to the gospel ministry" who were neither ordained as evangelists nor as pastors, was declared to be out of order, and no further notice of the case is found on the minutes; in regard

to which the Assembly are of opinion that the resolution, in so far as it contemplated depriving men of ordination on account of Presbyterial irregularity in granting it, ought not to have prevailed; but that the Synod were nevertheless bound to censure the Presbytery for irregularity in that ministerial act; 4th, on page 117 a motion, "that Synod now inquire whether Doctor Beecher has complied with the request made by the Synod two years ago (viz. in 1835), that he would publish in a pamphlet form his views of some specified points in theology," was decided to be out of order, because the Synod had not required Dr. Beecher to write a book.

The committee to receive and count the ballots for persons to fill vacancies in the Board of Education reported, when it appeared that the following were elected for four years:

BISHOPS.

Philip Lindsley,
David Magie,
George Potts,
Robert J. Breckinridge,
James W. Alexander,
Samuel D. Blythe,
William W. Phillips,
James L. Dinwiddie.

LAYMEN.

Matthew L. Bevan,
Nathaniel Ewing,
Thomas M'Kean,
Humphrey H. Leavitt,
Frederick V. Krug,
Joseph Patterson,
James H. Fitzgerald,
William Hadley.

The committee to whom was referred the overture with reference to the expenses of the lawsuit made a report, which was accepted, and adopted as follows, viz.:

Whereas it is absolutely necessary that a fund of \$4000 be created to defray the expenses of the lawsuits in which the Trustees of the General Assembly have been recently, or may hereafter be, involved;

Resolved, That the Presbyteries in connection with the General Assembly be requested to contribute forthwith for that purpose, and transmit to Matthew Newkirk, the Treasurer of the Trustees of the General Assembly, the following sums respectively, viz.:

Londonderry	\$ 30	Washington	\$100
Troy	50	Ohio	100
Albany	200	Allegheny	20
Hudson	75	Steubenville.....	60
North River.....	20	Beaver	40
Bedford	80	Erie	20
Long Island 2d	10	New Lisbon	30
New York	200	St. Clairsville.....	30
New York 2d	50	Columbus	40
Elizabethtown	50	Lancaster.....	40
Newton	100	Wooster	30
Susquehanna	20	Richland	30
Philadelphia	200	Marion	15
Philadelphia 2d.....	200	Miami	25
New Castle	100	Cincinnati	80
Baltimore.....	100	Oxford	30
Carlisle	100	Sidney	20
Huntingdon.....	40	Salem	40
Northumberland	30	Vincennes	40
Blairsville	40	Madison	40
Redstone	30	Crawfordsville	20

Indianapolis.....	\$ 20	Concord	\$ 80
Logansport	20	Morganton.....	20
Kaskaskia	30	Holston	20
Schuyler	20	Nashville ...	100
St. Charles.....	10	Western District	50
Louisville.....	100	South Carolina	75
Muhlenburg	40	Bethel	60
Transylvania	100	Harmony	150
West Lexington	100	Charleston Union	60
Ebenezer	50	Georgia	60
Lexington	100	Hopewell	100
Greenbrier	40	Flint River	40
Winchester	50	South Alabama	60
District of Columbia.....	25	Tuscaloosa	75
West Hanover.....	100	Tombeckbee.....	30
Roanoke.....	40	Mississippi	100
Orange.....	60	Clinton.....	50
Fayetteville	60	Louisiana.....	100

Resolved, Inasmuch as a loan of \$2000 has been obtained by the Trustees of the General Assembly on the faith of pledges given by the last General Assembly, that the members of the General Assembly be requested to assume the responsibility of raising the sum which ought to be contributed by their respective Presbyteries, and that the roll be called over for the purpose of ascertaining if they are willing to do so.

The roll was called, and the members of the Assembly severally assumed the responsibility of raising the sums expected from their respective Presbyteries.

The Committee on the State of the Church made a final report. On motion, the report was accepted, and entered upon the docket.

On motion, the Assembly proceeded to the order of the day—viz. the resolutions respecting a day of thanksgiving, which were considered till

The Assembly adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday morning, May 24th, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave of absence to Messrs. A. Smith, Kelton, Henderson, and Woodbridge. The report was approved.

On motion, the Assembly proceeded to the order of the day—viz. the election to fill vacancies in the Board of Domestic Missions. Messrs. Townley, Coe, and Hale were appointed a committee to receive and count the ballots and report the result.

On motion, the protest and complaint of the minority of the Synod of Cincinnati, referred by the last Assembly, was taken up; and, at the request of the party most interested, leave was given to withdraw the same.

The Committee on Mileage reported that there had been paid into the Commissioners' Fund the sum of seven hundred and forty-nine dollars and ninety-four cents; that the number of miles travelled, reported to them by Commissioners, is twenty-four thousand five hundred and eighty-two, which, at three cents per mile, amount to seven hundred and thirty-seven dollars and forty-six cents, for which sum the committee recommend that the Trustees of the General Assembly be directed to draw an order on their Treasurer. The report was accepted and adopted.

The Committee on Psalmody made a report, which was accepted and adopted, as follows, viz.:

1. *Resolved*, That the committee created last year be rendered permanent, and such changes made in it as will allow of a more free and regular intercourse; that a member be elected in the place of Dr. Alexander, who declines serving; that two additional members, conveniently located, be chosen; and that any three of the seven of which it will then consist be a quorum.

2. *Resolved*, That the *plates* from which what is called the arranged edition (printed by Mr. Whetham) ought to be withdrawn, and their further use prohibited entirely, as it regards both the Psalms and the Hymns, until the musical annotations and the running commentary, called captions, be erased. And, moreover, that said plates be deposited with the Book and Tract Board of the Assembly.

3. *Resolved*, That the Assembly's other *plates*, heretofore under the care of Solomon Allen, be the only ones from which Psalms and Hymns shall be printed, until the revised edition can be brought out by future order of the Assembly, after the permanent Committee of Psalmody shall have completed their work and reported.

4. *Resolved*, That these *plates* be put into the hands of the Book and Tract Board, which is hereby directed to take the charge, oversight, and agency of printing and selling the Assembly's Psalms and Hymns; and that they open a separate account with these books, and pass all the credits of the operation to the general objects of their institution.

5. *Resolved*, That the thanks of the Assembly are due to Mr. Solomon Allen for the liberal and faithful management of this matter in time past; and that the Clerk be directed to present them accordingly.

6. *Resolved*, That the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Rev. A. Alexander be filled by the appointment of Rev. John Breckinridge; and that the Rev. John Gray, of Easton, Pennsylvania, and the Rev. C. C. Cuyler, of Philadelphia, be the two new members added to the permanent Committee on Psalmody.

7. *Resolved*, That the reports of Solomon Allen and Joseph Whetham be printed in the Appendix.

The committee further reported a communication from Joseph Whetham, relative to the future publication of the Assembly's Psalms and Hymns; which was accepted, and referred to the Book and Tract Board.

The committee to receive and count the ballots for persons to fill vacancies in the Board of Domestic Missions, reported; when it appeared that the following were elected for four years:

BISHOPS.

Samuel Miller,
William B. Sprague,
Francis Herron,
Henry R. Weed,
William M. Engles,
Cortlandt Van Rensselaer,
Nicholas Murray.
Elisha M'Curdy.
Andrew O. Patterson.
Charles C. Beatty.

LAYMEN.

Solomon Allen,
James Lenox,
William Nassau,
Robert Stewart,
William R. Thompson,
James Field.

On motion of J. Breckenridge, *Resolved*, That the Rev. Samuel Miller, Archibald Alexander, Charles Hodge, J. Addison Alexander, and James Carnahan be a committee to inquire whether any, and if any, what measures

ought to be adopted for securing to the children and young people of our Church more full advantages of Christian education than they have hitherto enjoyed.

The committee on Overture No. 5 made a report, which was accepted, and entered on the docket.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day—viz. the reception of the annual report of the Board of Foreign Missions. The report was presented, and read by the Corresponding Secretary, and accepted. Addresses were made on the subject; and, on motion, the report was committed to Messrs. H. R. Wilson and R. B. Campbell.

Nominations were made to fill vacancies in the Board of Foreign Missions; and on motion the election was made the order of the day for this afternoon.

And then the Assembly adjourned until this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday afternoon, 4 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

On motion, the Assembly proceeded to the order of the day—viz. the election to fill vacancies in the Board of Foreign Missions. Messrs. M'Coy, Finley, and Hadley were appointed a committee to receive and count the ballots, and report the result.

On motion, Overture No. 15 was taken up and adopted, as follows, viz.:

1. *Resolved*, That the General Agent of the Board of Foreign Missions be, ex-officio, a member of the Executive Committee.

2. *Resolved*, That the Board be authorized to increase the number of vice-presidents to twelve.

The committee on Overture No. 13—viz. on the boundary-line between the Synods of Mississippi and Alabama—made a report, which was accepted; and, on motion, it was *Resolved*, That the subject be referred to the next General Assembly, and that the Synod of Alabama be required to take order on the subject and report to the next General Assembly.

The committee to receive and count the ballots for persons to fill vacancies in the Board of Foreign Missions reported, when it appeared that the following were elected, viz.:

For Four Years.

BISHOPS.

Elias W. Crane,
Cornelius C. Cuyler,
Jeremiah Chamberlain,
Charles Cummins,
James L. Dinwiddie,
Samuel S. Davis,
J. M. Dickey,
William L. Breckinridge,
David Elliott,
Thomas Goulding,
Samuel L. Graham,
Ashbel Green,
Jacob Green,
Francis Herron,
James Hoge.

RULING ELDERS.

Robert Archer,
Matthew L. Bevan,
N. Brewer,
John J. Bryant,
James N. Dickson,
Joseph P. Engles,
Nathaniel Ewing,
James H. Fitzgerald,
John Hannen,
William Harris,
Alexander Henry,
Robert Jaffray,
John Ker,
James Lenox.

For Three Years.

BISHOP.

William C. Anderson.

LAYMAN.

Walter Lowrie.

On motion, the Assembly resumed the unfinished business of yesterday—viz. the resolutions respecting a day of thanksgiving—which were further considered; and, on motion, it was committed to Messrs. A. Green, J. Breckinridge, Plumer, Todd, James Beattie, and Wylie.

Mr. Krebs offered a series of resolutions respecting the General Rules and the publication of the Constitution, which were entered on the docket.

On motion of J. T. Edgar, the following preamble and resolution were adopted, viz.:

Whereas, it is an essential feature of the government of the Presbyterian Church that the records of all its Synods should be transmitted annually to its highest court—the General Assembly—for examination: and *whereas*, this Assembly has painful evidence that this important regulation is, by some of its Synods frequently, and by others entirely neglected; therefore,

Resolved, That all our Synods be enjoined to take such order on this subject as shall ensure hereafter a faithful observance of the above regulation. And in all cases where the Stated Clerks of any of our Synods have failed this year, or may hereafter fail, to obey their order or the rule of the Assembly respecting this matter, such Synods are hereby required to judge of the reasons which such clerks may offer for their delinquency, and to excuse or censure them according to the circumstances of the case.

On motion, J. T. Edgar, together with the Commissioners from the Synod of Alabama—viz. Messrs. Martin, Baker, Russell, R. F. Witherspoon, and J. R. Witherspoon—and the Commissioners from the Synod of Mississippi—viz. Messrs. Butler, Ernst, Lawrence, Allsworth, and James Beattie—be a committee to ascertain the dividing-line between the aforesaid Synods.

And then the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday morning, May 25th, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

On motion of Mr. Bayard,

Resolved, That this Assembly do hereby enjoin on all ministers of churches under their care a strict and regular observance of the third article in the Directory for Public Worship (page 424); and they further recommend to all the Presbyteries in connection with this General Assembly that they inquire at least once in every year, at a stated meeting, how far the regulations in said article have been observed, and if in any instances overlooked or neglected that they take measures to have the same properly observed.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave of absence to Messrs. Ewing, Magie, Townley, Rankin, Waggoner, H. Long, Fenn, and M'Auley. The report was approved.

The committee on the report of the Board of Domestic Missions made a report, which was adopted as follows, viz.:

The committee to whom was referred the annual report of the Board of Missions for the year ending May, 1839, beg leave to recommend for the adoption of this Assembly, the following resolutions, viz.:

1. *Resolved*, That this Assembly, having heard from the report of the Board of Missions of the continued and increasing prosperity of the cause of Domestic Missions, as manifested in the increase of funds, of missionaries, and of the churches under their care, would record their grateful acknowledg-

ments to the Head of the Church, who, in the midst of all her trials, has thus graciously smiled upon her.

2. *Resolved*, That whereas the present position of the Board and the nature of their present engagements require on their part a great enlargement of their plans and efforts in accordance with the suggestions of the report, particularly in the vast regions of the West, South, and the South-west, including also Texas, which is calling loudly for their immediate assistance, —this Assembly do most earnestly urge upon all its ministers and churches the claims of this Board.

While the churches generally approve of this Board, and give their hearty approval to the great duty of Missions, this Assembly learns with the most painful disappointment and surprise that not more probably than two-thirds of our pastors or churches do at present render any assistance to the Church in prosecuting this great work. They would therefore affectionately commend this duty to every minister and church Session, and express their confident hope that this appeal will meet with a universal and cheerful response.

3. *Resolved*, That to secure this desirable object, inasmuch as the report, when published, though sent to every minister, cannot be generally circulated among the members of our churches, it be recommended to the pastors of churches to spread before their people the substance of this report, by reading it from the pulpit at such time as may be most convenient for taking up an annual collection on behalf of this Board.

4. *Resolved*, That while the necessity for agents is at present felt and recognized by the Assembly, in order ultimately to remove this necessity, and thus to reduce the expenditures of the Board, the individual agency and co-operation of every minister and church Session, in forwarding the interests of this Board, would, in the opinion of this Assembly, if faithfully employed, with the least expense and the greatest certainty advance the cause and multiply the resources of the Board.

The following resolutions are also recommended for the adoption of this Assembly, that the great principles which lie at the foundation and guide the operations of this Board may be brought prominently to the attention of our churches:

1. *Resolved*, That the Presbyterian Church in these United States is by its very nature and constitution a Missionary Society, acting under the charter, by the authority, and in obedience to the command of the only Head, Law-giver, and King in Zion, the Lord Jesus Christ.

2. *Resolved*, That the field which the Church, in this missionary character, is called upon to cultivate, is THE WORLD; that there is therefore but ONE field; and that the distinction between Foreign and Domestic Missions is made only to secure, by a division of labor and of responsibility, greater order, energy, and success.

3. *Resolved*, That this country, as far as it remains unsupplied with the glorious gospel of the blessed God and with the ordinances of religion, is the portion of this field which is committed to the Board of Missions as the agent of this Church, and which it is their duty to cultivate to the utmost extent of the ability of the Church and the openings presented by Divine Providence.

4. *Resolved*, That it is not only the duty of this Board to supply vacant churches with an intelligent, orthodox, and devoted ministry, not only to render assistance to feeble churches in supporting such a ministry when enjoyed, but also to extend the boundaries of the Church, to organize new congregations, and to establish churches in the hitherto neglected and waste places of the land.

5. *Resolved*, That in furtherance of this great work, which is of equal

importance to this country in its civil and religious aspects, this Assembly recognizes the great importance of itinerant missionary labors among the more destitute districts and the newly-settled portions of our country, and would urge its necessity, not only upon the employed missionaries of the Board, but also upon all pastors, who, by an annual missionary tour of this character, might render equal benefit to themselves, their churches, and to the Church at large, and thus greatly extend the boundaries of the kingdom of Christ.

6. *Resolved, further*, That it is the duty of this Board, in prosecuting this work, to look out for those central points of influence which do either now or prospectively exert a great influence on the surrounding country, and make them commanding stations from which the word of God may sound forth unto all the regions round about them.

On motion, the Assembly proceeded to the order of the day—viz. the reception of the annual report of the Board of Publication of Tracts and Sabbath-school Books. The report was presented and read by the Corresponding Secretary. Addresses were made on the subject; and, on motion, it was *Resolved*, That the resolutions of the last General Assembly, establishing a Board of Publication for Tracts and Sabbath-school Books, and the report of the aforesaid Board, be committed to a special committee, with instructions to report such a change in the name and such a modification of the plan of that Board as shall more adequately meet the demands of the Church and the world.

Messrs. Goldsmith, W. L. Breekinridge, and Carter were appointed the committee.

On motion, Overture No. 4 was taken up, and referred to the same committee.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Mississippi reported; and, on motion, the records were approved.

The committee to write a pastoral letter asked to be discharged. The request was granted.

The committee to whom was referred the resolutions respecting a day of thanksgiving made a report, which was considered, until

The Assembly adjourned till Monday morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday morning, May 27th, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave of absence to Messrs. J. Bullock, Hoagland, Blain, Hendrick, Hursh, John Johnston (ruling elder), Ross, Weir, Coeke, Huber, and Potts. The report was approved.

The committee to whom was referred the annual report of the Board of Foreign Missions made a report, which was adopted, as follows, viz.:

1. *Resolved*, That it becomes the Assembly to entertain gratitude, in no ordinary degree, to the great Head of the Church for his smiles upon the operations of our infant missionary institution.

2. *Resolved*, That the Assembly approves the views of the Executive Committee, to which the Board have responded with the deepest sensibility, in regard to the ancient people of God. The Jews are a people in whose salvation we ought to take a lively interest, and in relation to whom we ought most carefully to observe the developments of Divine Providence, and vigorously seize every opportunity as it offers of doing them good.

3. *Resolved*, That the Assembly sympathizes very deeply with the Board

in the expression of its sense of the immense obligations resting on the Presbyterian Church to increase its efforts for the conversion of the world to God. And as, in the providence of God, our beloved Zion is now in a condition to act with unity and concert on this subject, it is the duty of all to devote themselves with increased zeal and energy to extend the knowledge of the truth at home and abroad.

4. *Resolved*, As the Foreign Missionary field is ripe for the harvest, that it is to be regretted that the laborers are so few, and that of the many young men in our midst from year to year entering the sacred office, so few have engaged personally in the work of Foreign Missions.

5. *Resolved*, That as there are many important openings for missionary effort and influence in the papal, pagan, and Mohammedan world, requiring not only pious and devoted men, but also men of more than common talents, acquirements, experience, and influence, the Assembly most earnestly recommend the urgent claims of missions to *such men*, as well as to our ministers and candidates for the ministry generally; and that they be entreated to examine prayerfully whether they should not hold themselves in readiness to enter the foreign field, and go far hence to the Gentiles.

6. *Resolved*, That in view of these great and important principles and interests the Assembly is of the opinion that it is the duty of our Foreign Board to call to the occupation of these important centres of influence any of the servants of God whom they shall judge to be properly qualified.

7. *Resolved*, That 6000 copies of the report be printed and extensively circulated.

On motion, the Assembly resumed the unfinished business of Saturday—viz. the report of the committee on the resolutions respecting a day of thanksgiving; which was further considered, and it was amended and adopted, as follows, viz.:

Whereas, by the great grace of God, our beloved Church has now completed the fiftieth year since the organization of the General Assembly; and whereas, during that eventful and most interesting period she has experienced, notwithstanding all her unworthiness, extraordinary mercies of manifold kinds; and whereas, this great cycle in her history has been characterized by a series of remarkable deliverances from imminent dangers which threatened her purity, her peace, her Christian order, and sacred liberty; therefore,

1. *Resolved*, That the second Lord's Day of December next be, and it is hereby, appointed a day to be observed with religious solemnity by all our people in celebrating the praises of God and in rendering thanks to his great name for all his mercies.

2. *Resolved*, That it be earnestly recommended to all the pastors and other preachers of the gospel, under the care of this General Assembly, to convene all the people on that day, to instruct them more fully in the history of those great events in which we rejoice, and to invite them to acts of personal, public, and united praise to God.

3. *Resolved*, That as a timely and open expression of the Church's gratitude it be recommended that, either by public collections or in some other way approved and in use among the people, every member of the Presbyterian Church in the United States be called to "offer gifts" for the glory of God and the good of man; and that the same be remitted to the Treasurer of the Presbyterian Board of Publication, and that the thank-offering of the people of God made at said semi-centenary celebration be appropriated to the great object contemplated in the above resolutions, under the direction of the said Board.

4. *Resolved*, That a committee of one from each Synod represented in this

General Assembly be appointed to address a circular letter to the churches, explaining the objects of the above resolutions, inviting their universal and cordial co-operation, and also, calling on all the Presbyteries and Synods in our connection to take action on this important subject at their next stated meeting.

5. *Resolved*, That nothing in the foregoing resolutions shall be so construed as to prevent any individuals who may prefer it from directing their thank-offerings to the erection of buildings for the use of the General Assembly and its Boards in the cities of New York, Philadelphia, and Louisville.

Messrs. J. Breckinridge, Haywood, Thompson, Bayard, Wylie, Thomas Wilson, Crowe, C. Johnson, Chamberlain, J. R. Alexander, James Morrison, Alexander Morrison, Doak, Hadley, R. B. Campbell, J. R. Witherspoon, and Butler were appointed the committee contemplated by the fourth of the foregoing resolutions.

On motion, the final report of the Committee on the State of the Church was taken up and amended, and, after debate, it was postponed.

The committee to whom was referred the report of the Board of Publication of Tracts and Sabbath-school Books made a report, which was considered until

The Assembly adjourned until this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday afternoon, 4 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Assembly resumed the unfinished business of this morning—viz. the report of the committee on the annual report of the Tract and Sabbath-school Board, which was further considered and adopted, as follows, viz. :

1. *Resolved*, That the report of the Assembly's Board of Publication of Tracts and Sabbath-school Books be approved and referred to the Board for publication at their discretion; and that so much of said report as presents a summary account of the books and tracts published and depositories established be printed in the Appendix to the Assembly's *Minutes*.

2. *Resolved*, That the name of the Board for the Publication of Tracts and Sabbath-school Books be changed to the name of the Presbyterian Board of Publication, and that its Constitution be so altered as to require said Board to publish not only tracts and Sabbath-school books, but also approved works in support of the great principles of the Reformation, as exhibited in the doctrines and order of the Presbyterian Church, and whatever else the Assembly may direct.

3. *Resolved*, That the 3d Article of the Constitution of the Assembly's Board of Publication (see *Minutes* of 1838, p. 24) be amended by adding to it the following clause, viz. : "*Eleven* members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business."

4. *Resolved*, That the 4th Article of the Constitution of the Board be so altered as to provide that "the Executive Committee shall consist of nine members, besides the Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer."

5. *Resolved*, That to this Board be committed, on behalf of the General Assembly, the publication of such works, permanent and periodical, as are adapted to promote sound learning and true religion.

On motion, nominations to fill vacancies in the Board of Publication were made, and the election was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning.

On motion, *Resolved*, That at all meetings of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church thirteen members, meeting at the time and place

of adjournment or special call, shall be a quorum for the transaction of business.

On motion, the Assembly resumed the consideration of the final report of the Committee on the State of the Church, which was adopted as follows, viz.:

1. *Resolved*, That the Synod of Tennessee be, and the same is hereby, dissolved, and all the ministers and churches within its bounds, and adhering to this body are hereby declared to be attached to the Synod of West Tennessee; and that, as the Presbyteries of Union and French Broad have departed from the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, and as the minorities of said bodies have not organized so as to continue the succession of those Presbyteries in adherence to this body, the territorial limits of the Presbytery of Holston be extended, and they are hereby extended, so as to include the whole territory hitherto occupied by the Presbyteries of Union and French Broad; and that the territorial limits of the Synod of West Tennessee be extended so as to include the whole territory heretofore occupied by the Synod of Tennessee; and that the name of the Synod of West Tennessee be, and the same is hereby changed to the name of the Synod of Tennessee.

2. *Resolved*, That the Synod of Michigan be, and the same is hereby, dissolved, and as many of its members and churches as adhere to the General Assembly, and the minorities of its Presbyteries adhering as aforesaid, are hereby declared to be attached to the Synod of Cincinnati; and the Synod of Cincinnati is hereby directed to take such order on the whole subject as to secure, so far as possible, to sound Presbyterians in the bounds of the Synod hereby dissolved a regular connection with the General Assembly; and the Synod of Cincinnati is hereby required to make a full report of its action on the whole subject to the next General Assembly.

3. Whereas, difficulties have arisen in the Synod of Missouri, so as to have prevented any regular meeting for some time past, and so that it now stands adjourned to no particular day, therefore, *Resolved*, That said Synod be, and the same is hereby, directed to meet in the town of St. Charles on the second Thursday of September next, and that its sessions be opened with a sermon by the oldest minister present. And if there shall fail to be present a constitutional quorum, then as many as are present shall organize as a convention, and draw up a full and faithful statement of the whole circumstances, and present such statement and themselves at Springfield, in Illinois, on the third Thursday of October next, at the meeting of the Synod of Illinois; and from and after that time all the churches, ministers, minorities of Presbyteries, and Presbyteries within the bounds of the Synod of Missouri, so far as they adhere to the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, shall be united with and under the care of the Synod of Illinois; and from and after such union the name of the Synod of Illinois shall be changed to the name of the Synod of Illinois and Missouri.

4. As the territory of the Western Reserve does not now belong to any of our Synods, it is hereby *Resolved*, That the counties of Geauga, Ashtabula, and Trumbull be attached to the Synod of Pittsburgh, and that the remaining part be attached to the Synods of Ohio and Cincinnati, and divided between them by the line which now separates them running north to the lake.

5. *Resolved*, That this General Assembly with pleasure recognize the Presbytery of Peoria, in the bounds of the Synod of Illinois; and that it be enrolled and its statistics published in the Minutes of the General Assembly.

6. *Resolved*, That with equal pleasure the Assembly recognize the Presbytery of Ogdensburg, and that it be enrolled and its statistics published in the Minutes of the General Assembly; and that until another Presbytery be

formed in Western New York, so that the new Presbytery, in connection with the Presbyteries of Ogdensburg and Caledonia, may be formed into the Synod of Western New York, the Presbytery of Ogdensburg be, and the same is hereby, attached to the Synod of Albany.

7. Whereas, the following Presbyteries did, by their Commissioners in 1838, combine with others in forming a schismatical and disorderly body; and whereas, the acts of such Commissioners have been approved and confirmed by their respective Presbyteries, thus creating a regular and indubitable secession from the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America; therefore *Resolved*, That the names of the Presbyteries of Champlain, New York 3d, Newark, Montrose, Wilmington, Lewes, Detroit, St. Joseph, Monroe, Athens, Illinois, Ottawa, Alton, Union, and French Broad be erased from the roll of the General Assembly; and that any ministers and churches remaining in the territory formerly occupied by the said Presbyteries, and desiring to adhere to the Presbyterian Church, be and they hereby are directed to report themselves to the nearest Presbytery in our connection, and that such Presbytery, in every case, take proper and definitive action in relation thereto, agreeably to our Constitution and to the previous acts of the Assembly on the same subject.

8. Whereas, the Presbytery of Newburyport, by its Commissioners in 1838, did combine with others in forming a schismatical body; and whereas, the action of said Presbytery on the subject has not been decisive; and whereas, this Assembly is informed that a number of the members of said Presbytery are still desirous of retaining their connection with the General Assembly; therefore *Resolved*, That said Presbytery, or any number sufficient to continue the succession thereof, be directed, at its next stated meeting, to take such order on the whole subject as shall, on the plan adopted by the Assembly of 1838, secure a continued and indubitable connection with the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, and make a full report to the next General Assembly.

9. Whereas, it is understood that there is a sufficient number of ministers within the territorial limits of the Presbytery of Columbia (whose Commissioners, in 1838, united with others in forming a schismatical and disorderly body) to maintain the succession of said Presbytery; therefore *Resolved*, That all ministers, with one ruling elder from each congregation, within the limits of said Presbytery, who are disposed to adhere to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, be directed to meet on the second Tuesday of August next, in the Second Church, Hudson, at 10 o'clock, A. M., and after a sermon by the oldest minister present, that they proceed to all appropriate acts and doings under the continued name and style of the Presbytery of Columbia.

On motion of J. Breckinridge, *Resolved*, That the Board of Publication be authorized to appoint a general agent to bring this cause before the entire Church.

On motion, *Resolved*, In conformity with an understanding existing between the Synods of Pittsburgh and Philadelphia, that the boundary-line between said Synods be so altered as to place the county of Cambria within the bounds of the Synod of Pittsburgh.

On motion, the report of the Committee on Overture No. 5 was taken up; and, after debate, it was postponed and made the second order of the day for to-morrow morning.

The committee to reply to the letter from the Presbyterian Synod of Canada reported a letter, which was adopted; and it was *Ordered*, That the same be signed by the Moderator and the Permanent Clerk, and transmitted by the Stated Clerk to the body to whom it is addressed.

Mr. Todd offered a series of resolutions respecting the lawsuit; and on motion, they were made the third order of the day for to-morrow morning. And then the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock. Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday morning, May 28th, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day—viz. the election to fill vacancies in the Board of Publication. Messrs. Tuston, Overton, and Chestnut were appointed a committee to receive and count the ballots and report the result.

The Assembly proceeded to the second order of the day—viz. the report of the committee on Overture No. 5, respecting ministers without charge, and, on motion, it was indefinitely postponed.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the resolution adopted by the General Assembly in 1802, in relation to ministers without charge be republished in the printed *Minutes*.

It is as follows, viz.:

Resolved, That it is a principle of this Church that no minister of the gospel can be regularly divested of his office except by a course of discipline, terminating in his deposition; that if any minister, by providential circumstances, become incapable of exercising his ministerial functions, or is called to suspend them or to exercise them only occasionally, he is still to be considered as fully possessing the ministerial character and privileges; and his brethren of the Presbytery are to inspect his conduct; and while they treat him with due tenderness and sympathy, they are to be careful that he do not neglect ministerial duty beyond what his circumstances render unavoidable; that if any minister of the gospel, through a worldly spirit, a disrelish for the duties of his office, or any other criminal motive, become negligent or careless, he is by no means to be suffered to pursue this course, so as at length to be permitted to lay aside the ministry without censure; because this would be to encourage a disregard of the most solemn obligations by opening a way to escape from them with impunity. But in all such cases Presbyteries are seasonably to use the means and pursue the methods pointed out in the word of God and the rules of this Church, to recall their offending brother to a sense of duty; and if all their endeavors be ineffectual, they are at length regularly to exclude or depose him from his office.

"If any cases or questions relative to this subject shall arise in Presbyteries which are not contemplated by the provision of this rule, such cases or questions should be referred to the General Assembly for a special decision."

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave of absence to Messrs. William Johnston, Wylie, Moore, Van Eman, Holms, McKean, C. Long, Baylis, and Jeffrey. The report was approved.

The committee on the annual report of the Board of Education made a report, which, having been considered, it was, on motion, recommitted.

The Assembly proceeded to the third order of the day—viz. the resolutions respecting the lawsuit, which were considered until

The Assembly adjourned until this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday afternoon, 4 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Assembly resumed the unfinished business of this morning—viz. the resolutions respecting the lawsuit, which were adopted as follows, viz. :

In view of recent events, threatening the corporate franchises and property of the Church, the General Assembly deems it appropriate to record its sentiments of gratitude to God, reverence for the political institutions of the country, respect for its laws and their organs, confidence in its own agents in the management of its temporal affairs, and grateful remembrance of the able and distinguished members of the legal profession who, under God, have conducted those affairs to so successful a result ; and therefore it is hereby *Resolved*,

1. We recognize the hand of God in all our temporal as really and fully as in all our spiritual affairs. We owe it to his goodness that our people have had the means and the heart to give gifts to his Church, to be used for the maintenance of his truth and the extension of his kingdom. And now we are indebted to his continued favor that these gifts of charity have not been wrested from us.

2. We record, to the glory of God and with devout gratitude, that his grace enabled our people to maintain, with so much unanimity and firmness, a noble devotion to their religious principles, even when, for a brief period of darkness, they seemed about to be called to make great and painful sacrifices for them.

3. We find in the decision of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania renewed reason to confide in the protection of the laws, to trust to the fidelity, integrity, and wisdom of the public tribunals, and to rejoice in our free and noble institutions. We thank God for this renewed proof that in this happy land the boundaries between the authority of God over the consciences, and that of society over the actions of men, are indeed known and established ; and that our duties as citizens are confirmed by this additional proof to be in sweet accordance with our obligations as Christians.

4. We return public thanks to the respected gentlemen of the bar who have ably, faithfully, and successfully served our Church in its temporal trials. And while we deeply regret that ecclesiastical affairs should ever be carried before the courts of justice, we rejoice that this unhappy occasion has made clearly and renewedly manifest that devotion to general liberty and order, and that enlightened and efficient advocacy of their sacred interests, which have signalized this profession in all ages of the world.

5. We renew, on the part of the Church, expressions of confidence in the Board of Trustees of the General Assembly, and consider ourselves and our people debtors to them for their wise, firm, faithful, and successful administration of the trust committed to them.

6. In view of the lucid exposition of which recent events have been made the occasion in relation to the Constitution and principles of the Presbyterian Church, we recommend it to the churches under our care to obtain and circulate the history published at the office of the *Presbyterian* and at the office of the *Watchman of the South*, and shortly to come out in pamphlet form, of the trial before the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, including an extended report of the speeches of the counsel.

7. *Resolved*, That copies of the foregoing resolutions be transmitted to the Board of Trustees and to the legal gentlemen contemplated in these resolutions.

The committee to receive and count the ballots for persons to fill vacancies in the Board of Publication, reported, when it appeared that the following have been elected, viz. :

BISHOPS.

Archibald Alexander,
 John H. Church,
 Cornelius C. Cuyler,
 John N. Campbell,
 James Laurie,
 Robert J. Breckinridge,
 Thomas Smyth,
 N. S. Prime,
 Charles C. Jones,
 Charles C. Beatty,
 Henry A. Boardman.

LAYMEN.

Hugh Auchincloss,
 Solomon Allen,
 A. Bayless,
 D. C. Campbell,
 H. Denny,
 N. Ewing,
 S. Franklin,
 I. P. Engles,
 J. Hall,
 Joel Jones,
 J. Biggar.

The committee on the annual report of the Board of Education again reported; and, on motion, the report was adopted as follows, viz.:

Resolved, That the report of the Board of Education be approved.

As misapprehension has sometimes arisen in the minds of the beneficiaries of the Board, as well as in the minds of others, in regard to the light in which the Board and the Church view the assistance furnished to candidates for the gospel ministry under their care, *Resolved*, That the 2d Article of the Constitution be so altered that it may read as follows, viz.: "In all other cases the aid contributed to any candidates for the ministry shall be considered as a donation which he is under no other obligation to return than that moral obligation which must necessarily arise out of the nature of the case."

And whereas, there is a very great and increasing demand for preachers of the gospel, as well to supply our moral destitutions at home as to evangelize the hundreds of millions of heathen who are perishing without instruction; and whereas, our Church, if we compare its efforts with its ability, will be found doing very little in this great work, neither being engaged extensively and earnestly in prayer to God for the multiplication of gospel laborers, nor presenting sufficiently to the minds of its youth the wants of a dying world and the claims of the Redeemer to the unreserved consecration of their powers to his service as preachers of the gospel; and whereas, we feel that we can rely confidently on the blessing of God to enlarge our operations and increase our success if we endeavor, in dependence on Him, to use all active and vigorous measures, both for multiplying the number and securing the intellectual and moral advancement of our candidates for the gospel ministry, as well as all suitable means for guarding against the intrusion into the sacred office of those who would desecrate its functions; therefore

Resolved, 1. That it be earnestly recommended to the pastors and members of our churches that prayer be made to God continually that he would pour out his Spirit on the hearts of our young men, and prepare multitudes of them to serve him in the ministry of reconciliation.

2. That it be recommended to our pastors and elders to look out in all our churches for young men of suitable piety and talents, who may be educated under the care and by the assistance of the Church for the work of the gospel ministry; to converse and pray with such young men on the subject of their dedicating themselves to the service of God in preaching the gospel; and to endeavor, by every proper means, to induce them to qualify themselves for becoming the ambassadors of Christ to their perishing fellow-men.

3. That while the Assembly would recommend to the Board of Education the exercise of all due caution in the reception of its candidates, and a strict supervision of them during their whole course of instruction to prevent the sacred funds entrusted to their management by the Church from being per-

verted to the support of those who are unworthy of the patronage of the Church, the Assembly would also recommend to the Board to aim at a great enlargement of their operations and usefulness; and to effect this desirable object they would recommend to the Board to use increased exertions to augment, not merely the contributions of our churches to this cause, but the number of the candidates under their care.

4. That it is the deliberate conviction of this Assembly, formed as the result of much experience, that an efficient system of agencies, by which all the churches of our connection may be visited from year to year, is, in the present condition of Christian feeling and knowledge on the subject of benevolent operations, absolutely indispensable; that the Assembly therefore earnestly recommend to the Board of Education the employment of a suitable number of zealous and discreet agents, by whose instrumentality, or the instrumentality of voluntary agents engaged to co-operate with them, all the churches may have this important cause annually presented before them; and the Assembly would recommend to its churches that they receive with kindness and hearty co-operation the labors of the agents of all our ecclesiastical Boards; remembering that the service in which these brethren are engaged is an arduous, self-denying service, undertaken not for filthy lucre, but for the glory of God, that our people may have an opportunity of understanding their duty and discharging it in reference to the advancement of Christ's kingdom in its various branches.

5. That it be recommended to the Presbyteries to adopt the plan of the Board, heretofore published, so far as to examine and recommend all candidates for pecuniary aid who may reside within their bounds; and that they continue to exercise over such candidates, while in the course of education, such care and supervision as may be necessary; and when the conduct of any beneficiary shall be such as to require his dismissal from a place on the funds of the Board, that the Presbytery to which he belongs be informed of the same.

On motion of William S. Plumer, Whereas, it has come to the knowledge of this General Assembly that difficulties have arisen in the Presbytery of Hudson which have led some of its members to depart from the Presbyterian Church; therefore, *Resolved*, That the Presbytery of Hudson be directed at its first meeting to purge its roll.

The committee to write a letter on the subject of maintaining doctrinal purity made a report, which was adopted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix.

The committee to ascertain the dividing-line between the Synods of Alabama and Mississippi made a report, which was adopted, as follows, viz.:

1. *Resolved*, That the line dividing the Synods of Alabama and Mississippi from each other be established as follows: Beginning at a point where the 32d degree of north latitude strikes the eastern boundary-line of Smith county in the State of Mississippi, and running thence due north, along the eastern lines of the counties of Smith, Scott, Leak, and Attala to the south line of Choctaw county, thence due east along said south line to the eastern boundary of said county, and thence due north to the line of the State of Tennessee.

2. *Resolved*, That all the ministers and churches situated westward of the above dividing-line that have heretofore been connected with the Presbytery of Tombeckee, in the Synod of Alabama, be hereby attached, after the 12th day of October next, to the Presbytery of Clinton, in the Synod of Mississippi.

3. *Resolved*, That the following question be sent down to the Synods of Alabama and Mississippi—viz. whether the small tract of country included

within the Synod of Alabama, and lying between the Synods of Mississippi and Tennessee, ought not to be set off to the Synod of Mississippi.

And then the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.
Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday morning, May 29th, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave of absence to Messrs. Dunlap, Parker, Lowrie, Bayard, Terry, Hadley, Allsworth, Thomas Wilson, Harrison, Overton, C. C. Beatty, Hughes, Markle, and F. Johnston. The committee further reported that Mr. Burrows has been unexpectedly called away, without the opportunity of obtaining leave from the committee, and they recommended that he be excused. The report was approved.

On motion, Overture No. 14 was taken up, and it was *Resolved*, That it be enjoined on all the Presbyteries to take early and efficient measures for terminating, as far as possible, the growing evil of the system of stated supplies, and for leading all our churches to seek the regular installation of their stated teachers as pastors in the full sense of the term, as used in our Form of Government.

On motion, Overture No. 16 was taken up, and it was *Resolved*, That in all cases where members of any of our churches apply for dismission to unite with a church of another denomination, that the proper course is to give a certificate of Christian character only.

On motion, the resolutions offered by Mr. Krebs were taken up and adopted, as follows, viz.:

1. *Resolved*, That the General Rules be amended so as to read as follows, viz.:

RULE 13. Motions to lay on the table, to take up business, and to adjourn, and the call for the previous question, shall be put without debate. On questions of order, postponement, or commitment no member shall speak more than once. On all other questions each member may speak twice, but not oftener without express leave of the judicatory.

RULE 14. When a question is under debate no motion shall be received, unless to adjourn, to lie on the table, to postpone indefinitely, to postpone to a day certain, to commit, or to amend; which several motions shall have precedence in the order in which they are herein arranged, and the motion for adjournment shall always be in order.

2. *Resolved*, That in the authorized editions of the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America the General Rules Nos. 13, 14, 17, and 18 be hereafter printed as they have been respectively settled by the present Assembly and by the Assembly of 1837.

3. *Resolved*, That the permission heretofore granted by the Assembly to publish the Confession of Faith in contravention of the copyright be, and the same is hereby, revoked.

4. *Resolved*, That the Presbyterian Board of Publication is hereby directed to take the charge, oversight, and agency of printing and selling the authorized copy of the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, and that they open a separate account therefor, and pass all the credits of the operation quarterly to the general objects of their institution.

5. *Resolved*, That the standing committees to supervise the publication of the Constitution within the bounds of the several Synods be and the same are hereby abolished.

William L. Breckinridge offered, for himself and others, a Protest against

a decision of this House on yesterday relative to the Commissioners from the Presbytery of Hudson, which was received and committed to Messrs. Lawrence, Goldsmith, and Wells to be answered.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the thanks of the General Assembly be presented to the citizens of Philadelphia for their generous hospitality to the members during these sessions.

Bills for the incidental expenses, amounting to \$113.20, were presented, and it was

Resolved, That the Trustees be directed to pay the same out of the Contingent Fund.

The committee to whom was referred the subject of Presbyterian ministers who have charge of Congregational churches reported, asking to be discharged from the further consideration of the subject. The request was granted, and the subject was referred to Messrs. Ashbel Green, William W. Phillips, and Samuel Bayard, to inquire and report to the next General Assembly.

On motion, The Board of Publication were directed to meet in this house at the close of this morning's session.

On motion, *Resolved*, That this General Assembly will not make any change in the Board of Trustees for this year.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the thanks of this Assembly be given to the pastor and deacons of the Assembly Church for their generosity in giving to this General Assembly the gratuitous use of their house of worship for our sessions.

The Committee on the Narrative made a report, which was recommitted.

And then the Assembly adjourned until this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday afternoon, 4 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The committee to answer the protest of W. L. Breckinridge, etc., made a report, which was accepted, and, on motion, it was recommitted, and W. S. Plumer was added to the committee.

The Committee on the Narrative again reported. The report was accepted and adopted, and it was ordered that the Narrative be printed in the Appendix.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the Rules adopted in 1836 and amended in 1837, respecting the distribution of the Minutes, be reprinted in the Appendix.

On motion of A. Alexander, Whereas, complaints have come to the General Assembly from every part of the Church and of the country concerning the growing evil of Sabbath desecration; and whereas, the proper observance of that holy day is identified with the progress and the very existence of pure religion; therefore,

Resolved, That it be recommended to each minister in our connection to preach upon the subject of the Christian Sabbath at some convenient time during the year.

The committee to prepare a letter to be addressed to the churches respecting the day of thanksgiving, reported. Their report was accepted, and recommitted to Messrs. J. Breckinridge, Samuel Miller, and Samuel Bayard, to be completed and published.

The committee to prepare an answer to the protest of W. L. Breckinridge and others again reported. The report was accepted and adopted, and it was ordered that the protest and the answer be inserted in the Minutes as follows, viz.:

PROTEST.

The undersigned desire to record their protest against the action of the General Assembly in relation to the Presbytery of Hudson.

It appears that this Presbytery, previous to the late secession from the Presbyterian Church, contained such a number of members as entitled it to four Commissioners on this floor; that during the last fall and winter several members seceded and united with another body; that these persons, claiming to be the Presbytery of Hudson, had in the most public manner performed what they deemed Presbyterian acts, and have not, since that time, attended the sessions of the Presbytery of Hudson, thus showing, beyond all question, that they had seceded from its connection and renounced its authority; and yet the Presbytery, declining to take action on the subject, retained their names as members, and on the number thus unjustly and injuriously swelled claimed to send, and actually did send, four Commissioners to this Assembly, while their true number, now reduced by secession, entitled them only to two. And when these facts became known to the Assembly this body refused to take any sufficient measures to correct the impropriety, contenting itself with directing the Presbytery to purge its roll at its next meeting.

It cannot be properly pleaded, in justification of this action, that the Assembly was not informed of the above-mentioned facts; for they were stated on the floor by members, and were not contradicted, but assented to by the Commissioners from the Presbytery of Hudson; nor can it be pleaded that the Assembly, not having official information, cannot be said to be informed, because in relation to the Presbytery of Newburyport on the preceding day this Assembly did, on the authority of a private letter from a person not a member of this House to another person not a member of this House, declare itself to be so far informed of the condition of that Presbytery as to take action upon it, and as to assert that the Presbytery of Newburyport had taken no decisive step in relation to the late secession, although by its Commissioners, one year ago, it had joined in that secession, and actually had a Commissioner in the body formed by that secession lately holding meetings in this city. It is clear to the undersigned that the information which this Assembly possessed in relation to the abuses in the Presbytery of Hudson was more direct and satisfactory than that in relation to the Presbytery of Newburyport; and they protest against any action or statement which implies the contrary. Nor can it be pleaded that the official statements of the Presbytery of Hudson in its statistical report to the Assembly and in the commissions of its Commissioners are more to be relied on than any other testimony, when it was known to this body that these official statements were based upon the facts above set forth. Nor can it be pleaded in justification of this action that this knowledge was not received by the Assembly until the eleventh day of its session near the time of its adjournment, and after part of the Commissioners from the Presbytery of Hudson had returned home on leave, because, if there were an error, it ought to be corrected whenever discovered. Moreover, it was known to the officers of this House and to some of its members from the beginning; and as soon as it became known to the undersigned, on the eleventh day of the session as aforesaid, decisive action was earnestly urged by them, as due from this body to itself and to the Church.

The undersigned further protest against this action of the Assembly, because it will occasion the following result, to wit: the Presbytery of Hudson will appear in our published Minutes to be represented here by four Commissioners, and to contain as members twenty-five persons, when it is notorious that several of these have seceded, leaving the Presbytery

entitled to only two Commissioners. Moreover, it will appear in the published Minutes of the Assembly that certain individuals are members of the Presbytery of Hudson, and certain churches are under its care, while those very individuals and ruling elders from those very churches have notoriously been sitting in another body in this city, and falsely claiming to represent therein the Presbytery of Hudson.

Nor can it be pleaded in justification of this action that the Presbytery of Hudson intends in due time to subject its disorderly members to discipline, because the General Assembly of 1838 announced certain principles in relation to this general subject, of which the whole course of the Presbytery of Hudson in this matter appears to be in direct contravention.

The undersigned protest against this action, finally, because a radical feature in our system of government is representation, which is just and well defined; and in the late struggles from which the Church is now emerging this principle has been asserted and nobly vindicated, in the exclusion from the General Assembly of persons unauthorized as REPRESENTATIVES to occupy seats here; and this principle, the undersigned believe, is compromised by this action of the General Assembly.

W. L. BRECKINRIDGE,
ROBERT STEEL,
D. X. JUNKIN,
JOHN LYLE.

Philadelphia May 28th, 1839.

ANSWER.

1. The Presbytery of Hudson, according to the official report of their Stated Clerk, was entitled to send four delegates to the General Assembly, that report, together with the commissions, being in the first instance the proper evidence in the case.

2. Although a minority, consisting of some few members of said Presbytery, at the secession from the Synod of New York, at its last session, denied the right of the Synod to divide, and afterward joined in organizing a new Synod, in which a new Presbytery was organized, composed of the secession of the Hudson Presbytery and bearing the same name, yet it is believed that the Hudson Presbytery was induced to delay striking off their roll the members so seceding for reasons which they considered wise and prudent, and that they do not deserve censure for said delay; and further, that under the circumstances the General Assembly has already taken the proper steps in the case.

3. The Assembly have been satisfactorily informed that the Presbytery of Hudson has already appointed a meeting to be held on the 11th of June, *proximo*, for the express purpose of taking order in relation to such of its members as have departed from our communion; but until such action can be wisely and discreetly had, and the roll of the Presbytery purged, the Presbytery is entitled to the number of Commissioners sent to this Assembly.

The minutes of the present session were read and approved.

The roll was called, and the following persons were marked absent at the close of the sessions without leave—viz. Joseph Wilson, John Long, John M. Snowden, Humphrey H. Leavitt, and James M'Kenzie.

The Assembly having finished their business, it was *Resolved*, That this General Assembly be dissolved, and that another General Assembly, chosen in like manner, be required to meet in the Seventh or Assembly Church, in the city of Philadelphia, on the third Thursday of May, A. D. 1840.

Accordingly, the Moderator dissolved the Assembly with prayer, singing, and the apostolic benediction.

JOHN M. KREBS, *Permanent Clerk.*

Philadelphia, May 29th, 1839.

APPENDIX.

NARRATIVE OF THE STATE OF RELIGION.

CHRISTIAN BRETHREN :

The object of this Narrative, which is annually addressed to you by the General Assembly, is to put you in possession of a summary of the state of religion in the Presbyterian Church. Such a sketch must necessarily be imperfect, not only from the extent of the subject and the very concise terms of these narratives, but from the nature of religious influence. Much of this influence lies beyond our reach, belonging rather to the secrets of the heart and the deep things of God. We should also bear in mind that even where its effects can be traced, the progress of Christianity is not to be measured by its *direct* results alone. The *indirect* influences of religion, as they blend with all the relations of man, are frequently the most important, and though they elude our search, they constantly operate, and with silent power change the character and institutions of men, prepare the way for the gospel, and deeply affect the destiny of distant generations.

Besides the above, there are also other influences of Christianity which ought not to be overlooked in a narrative of this sort. For example, the loss of doctrinal purity may be as fatal to religion among a people as the prevalence of open immorality. To restore the truth to a people in such circumstances by effective and properly conducted controversy is a great triumph of the gospel, and lies, in fact, at the root of all true religion; yet the conversion of men to God may not appear among its immediate effects.

Again, the order of the house of God is an essential part of his true worship, of the right government of the Church, and the efficient propagation of the gospel. To preserve that order unimpaired or to restore it when disturbed is, therefore, a great duty of the Church of God as the pillar and ground of truth. The history of the Presbyterian Church for several years past affords a striking illustration of the above remarks. The results of those controversies about our doctrines and our order, by which we have been so long agitated, form an essential part of the state of religion in our beloved Church. After a painful and protracted contest, God has granted us deliverance and peace, the truth has triumphed, the Church has been purged of error, our ecclesiastical order and our venerable institutions, sometimes almost threatened with extinction, have been rescued and re-established with new sanctions. The great charities of the Church have been increased in number and strengthened in character, and we are now prepared, by the grace of God, in a manner hitherto unknown, to maintain and extend the gospel of Christ.

It is a matter for devout acknowledgment to God that we have seldom more enjoyed the manifest tokens of God's gracious presence in the midst of the churches than during the season of trial and agitation through which we have just passed. The house of God, like the ancient temple, may "be built in troublous times." In no previous year have our ecclesiastical Boards been more abundantly prospered, finding favor with the people and daily growing more useful and efficient; especially is this true in regard to Domestic and

Foreign Missions. An unusual number of new churches has been organized during the year. In the destitute places the call for the preached word has daily waxed louder. In the churches generally the people of God have been confirmed in their attachment to the distinguishing doctrines of our venerable standards. More attention has been paid to prayer-meetings, to religious education, and to the means of grace in general. We are, also, permitted to recount a special work of grace in the Presbyteries of New York, Long Island 2d, New Brunswick, South Carolina, Georgia, Flint River, Tuscaloosa, Steubenville, Tombeckbee, and Louisville; some remarkable examples are reported of conversions in the Sabbath-schools, and large additions have been made to the churches from the colored population in some portions of the Southern States. Besides these special manifestations of divine grace, the Presbyteries generally report more than usual attention to religion among the people at large, larger additions to the communion of the Church, and as evident increase of liberality and of the spirit of Missions, with many kindred facts indicating the pleasing progress of the gospel.

One subject of peculiar interest in the history of the year is the religious instruction of the children of the Church. This all-important duty is evidently receiving a more deep and general attention from pastors and parents, as well as from that noble army of youthful laborers who have devoted themselves to the instruction of Sabbath-schools. Our hopes of success in spreading the gospel rest, under God, in a large measure on the religious education of the world in its infancy. This is a work so simple, so practical, so sublime, that it ought largely to enlist the prayers and labors of all the people of God. With the Bible in her hands, interpreted by our admirable standards, and carried down to the fountain of life by the universal instruction of her children, the Church would be irresistible. At this age of impression the knowledge of the Lord should be imparted to every child that lives. We are happy to add that a committee has been appointed by the General Assembly at its present sessions with instructions to digest a plan to be laid before all our churches.

In connection with this subject we mention with peculiar pleasure the growing attention of our brethren in many parts of the land to the oral religious instruction of the slaves: the wisdom and fidelity with which it has been conducted, the general approbation which their labors have received, and the success attending them, mark an era in the work of Domestic Missions, and should encourage our brethren largely to enter upon this open and interesting field. We cannot here forbear to extract a part of the report from the Presbytery of Georgia: "We are happy to say, in regard to the religious instruction of negroes, that this important part of our service has received a new impulse during the last year. This business receives considerable attention in many parts of our bounds. Plantations are open to all our ministers, and fields presented among this people which it is impossible for them to occupy. Sabbath-schools for their exclusive benefit exist in some of our churches, and we are happy to believe that there is an increasing interest felt on this subject. Within our bounds there is one minister whose whole ministry is devoted exclusively to this people, and most if not all the settled pastors and stated supplies preach as often as once a week to this class of our population. And in Liberty county there is at this time very considerable attention to religion among the blacks, not less than fifty being under serious impressions."

We only add that a beloved brother in Augusta and another in the vicinity of Natchez are following the noble example recorded in the above extract by devoting their whole time to this interesting work.

On the subject of intemperance our reports are various, and, on the whole,

indicate no change or progress worthy of special notice. But there is one aspect of this subject which ought not to be lost sight of. Several of our State legislatures have, with noble intrepidity, laid their strong hands on this national hydra. The enlightened legislation of Tennessee and Mississippi, in particular, against this enormous evil has attracted the attention of the nation and exceedingly cheered and aided the friends of temperance.

Amidst many mercies for which we have so much reason to rejoice and to bless God, we have to record the reiterated complaints by the Presbyteries of the frequent profanation of the Lord's Day, of the spirit of speculation and worldliness which is often found even in the bosom of the Church; of the American sin, as it may be emphatically called—viz. of the insubordination of the youth of our land. For these and all other sins it becomes us deeply to humble ourselves at the throne of God and to deprecate the wrath to which they deservedly expose us. Thus, Christian brethren, we have, in a few words, recited to you the history of the ecclesiastical year which has now drawn to its close.

In concluding this Narrative we venture to suggest that in the new and solemn circumstances of our Church we ought to rejoice with trembling, to take care that we properly improve the events by which we have been so much favored to the greater glory of God, and to prove the sincerity and supremacy of our love for the truth by its universal diffusion. The word of God is not bound: let it have free course, that it may run and be glorified. We can no longer derive apologies for our inactivity from divided counsels, intestine commotions, or conflicting interests. We enjoy the unity of the Spirit in the bonds of peace. Our trials have passed away. The opening field of the world invites us. All things are ready, and the stumbling-blocks have been taken out of our way. If our doctrines and order should now lose their efficacy in our hands, if our ecclesiastical organizations should now languish and our zeal now be permitted to expire, we shall meet the due reward of our sins in the desertion of God and the execration of all men. Christian brethren, "we are persuaded better things of you, and things that accompany salvation, though we thus speak." Let us arise in the might of God to do a great work for the glory of the Lord and the salvation of the world.

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

LETTER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO THE CHURCHES UNDER ITS CARE ON THE MAINTENANCE OF DOCTRINAL PURITY.

DEAR BRETHREN:

The General Assembly, being the bond of union, correspondence, and mutual confidence among all the churches, has authority to reprove, to warn, or bear testimony against error in doctrine or immorality in practice. It is bound to exercise this prerogative whenever the Church is exposed to any particular danger or needs admonition or exhortation with regard to any special duty. Believing that the present circumstances of our Church render the duty of maintaining a faithful adherence to our standards of doctrine and discipline peculiarly necessary, the Assembly desire to call attention to this important subject.

God has been pleased to bring us through a protracted and arduous conflict in which we have been contending for the truth and order of the Church. While we gratefully acknowledge his goodness in crowning our efforts to sustain our standards with success, it becomes us to look back and see wherein we have sinned, that we may penitently confess our errors and learn wisdom for our future guidance. It is not our object, on this occasion, to point out the various particulars in which the past conduct of our Church may have

offended God, but simply to call the attention of our ministers and members to what, in the judgment of this Assembly, has been the principal source of our long-continued difficulties. Our great error has been a want of fidelity to the fundamental principles of our ecclesiastical compact. It is important, therefore, that these principles should be distinctly stated and the duty of adhering to them be urged upon the Church.

Our fathers taught that God alone is Lord of the conscience, and hath left it free from the doctrines and commandments of men which are in anything contrary to his word or beside it in matters of faith and worship; that saints by profession are bound to maintain a holy fellowship and communion in the worship of God, and in performing such other spiritual services as tend to their mutual edification; and that this communion, as God offereth opportunity, is to be extended unto all those who, in every place, call upon the name of the Lord Jesus. In perfect consistency with these principles of liberty of conscience and communion of saints, they held that every Christian Church or association of churches is entitled to declare the terms of admission into its communion and the qualifications of its ministers and members, as well as the whole system of its internal government which Christ has appointed.

The terms of Christian communion adopted by our Church have been in accordance with the divine command that we should receive one another as Christ has received us. We have ever admitted to our communion all those who, in the judgment of charity, were the sincere disciples of Jesus Christ. If in some instances stricter terms have been insisted upon, if candidates for sealing ordinances have been required to sign pledges, to make profession of anything more than faith, love, and obedience to Jesus Christ, these instances have been few and unauthorized, and therefore do not affect the general character of our Church. We fully recognize the authority of the command, "Him that is weak in faith receive ye, but not to doubtful disputations." The application of this command is entirely confined to private membership in the Church. It has no reference to the admission of men to offices in the house of God. On the contrary, we observe that with regard to ministerial communion or the qualifications for admission into the office of the ministry the command of God is that a bishop must be blameless, apt to teach, holding fast the faithful word, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and convince the gainsayers. In obedience to this command, the founders of our Church, and all who have entered it with enlightened views and honest intentions, have declared to the world and to all other Christian churches that the system of doctrine contained in the Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechism is that sound doctrine which we are to require in all those who seek the office of a bishop. So also our Form of Government requires of elders and deacons, who are not teachers, but rulers and stewards in the house of God, a no less unequivocal and public profession of adherence to our standards; and in this the Scriptures abundantly sustain our principles. When the elders and deacons of a church become lax or heretical in their doctrinal views, they may, and often do, adopt measures as subversive of the doctrine which is according to godliness as could be any measures resorted to by the pastor of the church.

Such are the principles on which our Church was founded, and on which, for more than a century, it was faithfully administered. It is believed that during all that period no one was debarred from the communion of saints who was regarded as a sincere disciple of Christ, and that no one was admitted to any office in our Church, or if admitted was allowed to retain his standing, who dissented in any material point from the system of doctrine contained in our standards. That this latter principle of our Constitution

has of late years been in many cases culpably disregarded is a matter of general notoriety. Many ministers have been received into our Presbyteries who never adopted our Confession of Faith; and many others, bishops and elders, who professed to adopt it have been allowed publicly to avow opinions subversive of its distinguishing doctrines. The General Assembly bears its solemn testimony against this unfaithfulness. It enjoins on the Presbyteries, on the one hand, to abstain from making anything a condition of ministerial communion which the Constitution does not prescribe; and, on the other, to be firm and faithful in demanding everything which the Constitution enjoins. In giving this injunction the Assembly requires nothing that is unjust or unreasonable. No man has a right to join any society unless he is willing to submit to its rules. Much less has any man the right to assume the office of teacher, ruler, or steward in a Church unless he fully assents to its doctrines. All those who approve of the doctrines which we are pledged to sustain, and who are otherwise qualified for the work, we cordially welcome to our fellowship and promise them our confidence and support. But we protest against the unfairness of those who adopt our standards in a sense different from their obvious import, contrary to the known and generally received interpretation, as a dishonesty and an injury against which the Presbyteries are bound to protect the churches, and against which the churches should both watch and pray.

The Presbyteries should remember that they are not independent bodies, each acting for itself alone, and therefore at liberty to receive any candidate who they may suppose is qualified to do good. The Presbyteries are co-ordinate members of an extended communion, bound together by a written compact. When, therefore, they admit a member who has not the constitutional qualifications, they are guilty of a breach of faith. So also the churches and Sessions are not at liberty to desire and urge the election and ordination of any of their own number to any office in the Church, or to approve of their continuance in such office, unless they are known to be men who hold fast the form of sound words and show in doctrine uncorruptness.

Were the points in regard to which the Presbyteries, Sessions, and churches are thus exhorted to adhere to the Constitution mere matters of form, the duty would still be binding, but as they relate to the truth of God it is the more obligatory and important. The truth is a sacred deposit which we are bound to treasure and transmit uncorrupted. It is the fire upon God's altar which we are to watch, without which there can be no acceptable offering, and which, if once extinguished, can hardly be rekindled. The sanctuary remains dark and desolate for ages. The history of the Christian Church is one solemn admonition on this subject. Indifference to the truth is one of the first and surest indications of the decline of religion in any communion. Men cannot be indifferent to what they see and feel concerns their own salvation. The Assembly, therefore, would deplore any manifestation of such indifference, and would warn all in our communion against its insidious approaches. It may put on the guise of liberality or assume the name of charity, but its nature is not thereby altered. It is only the more dangerous from these false assumptions.

We should ever remember that truth is in order to goodness; that the great touchstone of truth is its tendency to promote holiness; that no opinion can be either more pernicious or more absurd than that which brings all opinions upon a level, and represents it as of no consequence what a man believes if he be sincere. On the contrary, we should ever remember that there is an inseparable connection between faith and practice, truth and duty (Form of Gov., chap. i. sec. 4). The Assembly is the more earnest on this subject as the most subtle errors to which our churches are at present ex-

posed are intimately connected with experimental religion. It is true, indeed, that the forms of error in our day vary from the refinements of Arminianism to the grossest atheism, from high Arianism to the lowest humanitarianism, and from the most abstruse metaphysical philosophy, touching free will, moral agency, and sin original and actual, to the bold and daring denial of all accountability and of the moral government of God. It is neither possible nor necessary for the Assembly to enter into a detail of these various and varying forms of error. But it is proper briefly to allude to a few of the more subtle character held by men who have been and are still desirous of appearing to be entitled to our confidence. We observe, therefore, that it has been openly taught, in works widely circulated and highly recommended, that self-love is the ultimate foundation of moral obligation; that the reason why we are bound to do right is that it will make us happy; that our obligation to obey God does not arise out of our relation to him as our Creator nor out of his infinite excellence, but from the fact that he knows best what will promote our happiness. How can a man have proper sentiments toward God who entertains such views? How can self be thus made the centre, the beginning, and the end of religion and morality, and yet true piety flourish in the soul? How is God degraded and man exalted! how is the eternal distinction between right and wrong, holiness and sin, obliterated, and all religion made a clear calculation of profit and loss, by such a doctrine!

It has still more frequently and undisguisedly been taught that such is the nature of free agency; that God cannot certainly control the acts of moral agents; that he could not prevent the introduction of sin into a moral system, nor even the present amount of sin; that he does all he can for the conversion of all who hear the gospel. This doctrine has, from the beginning of the Christian Church, been the dividing-line between the friends and the enemies of the doctrines of grace. It is one of the fundamental principles of that system which is known among us as the new divinity. If this doctrine is true, God is dependent and uncertain in his plans; his promises are all precarious and prayer is a mockery.

The doctrine of original sin, as taught in our Confession of Faith and as held by all the churches of the Reformation, has been extensively repudiated. Yet this doctrine not only lies at the foundation of the whole system of redemption, but is most intimately connected with religious experience. The new doctrine denies the corruption of our nature; it makes the evil that is in our hearts a light matter, to be overcome by a volition, by a mere change of purpose. Regeneration, therefore, is an easy work, as easy as a change of determination regarding a profession or a journey. The change itself is generally different from what the Christian world has hitherto regarded it. It is a mere choice of a different source of happiness, a choice made from self-love and for self-gratification. What kind of religion is that, brethren, the very essence of which is not the love of God, but the love of self?

The sinner, moreover, according to this system, is not dependent on the sovereign mercy of God; he has, independently of the influence of the Holy Spirit, full power to change his heart and perfectly keep the law of God. The work of the Spirit, though occasionally introduced into the writings of the advocates of these views, seems entirely out of place and heterogeneous. Instead, therefore, of having the prominence which it has in the word of God and in the writings of the Reformers, it is subordinate, secondary, and unimportant.

The Assembly would further remind you that radical error regarding the priestly office of Christ, and our justification through him, has been and is extensively taught. Our standards of doctrine teach that Christ as a priest "offered himself a sacrifice to satisfy divine justice," and that we are justified

by the righteousness of Christ, consisting in his obedience and offering of himself a sacrifice for sin, "imputed to us, and received by faith alone." The Scriptures declare that Christ, "through the eternal Spirit, offered himself without spot to God." Here is language not equivocal, and it is easy of apprehension. Need we inform you that there are those who subvert this truth—who deny that Christ, as a surety, made a legal satisfaction for our sins, or that he wrought out a righteousness which is imputable to us for our justification in the sight of God? Such tell you, in the face of the Bible and of what you have been taught, that justification is a sovereign act of pardon, that it takes place in every instance by a suspension of the regular order of distributive justice, and that the death of Christ was a mere exhibition of the desert of sin in the abstract, producing no other effect than that of changing the moral feelings and character of the sinner. Thus divine truth and justice are dishonored in our salvation. We are not mistaken when we say to you that this most unreasonable and pernicious error is extensively propagated. Let it prevail and God is dishonored, the only hope of a convinced sinner is taken away, and there remains for him nothing but the wrath of incensed, unappeased justice. As your friends we warn you to be guarded against such departures from the faith of Jesus to another gospel—a gospel which subverts the foundation of all your hopes; which denies "that Christ died for our sins, according to the Scriptures;" that "he bore *our* sins in his own body on the tree;" that the Lord "laid on him the iniquities of us all;" that "Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us;" and that he is thus "set forth" in the blessed gospel, "a propitiation, through faith in his blood, to declare God's righteousness, in the remission of sins that are past," that he might be just, "and yet the justifier of him that believeth in Jesus." Such truth as the Saviour's actual substitution for sinners is fundamental to the plan of our salvation, and cannot be surrendered without an entire subversion of the gospel system.

This whole system—in making self-love the ground of all moral obligation; in denying the corruption of our nature; in exalting the power of man; in depreciating the necessity of the Spirit's influence; in misrepresenting the nature of the work of Christ—is in direct hostility to evangelical religion, and, as this Assembly solemnly believes, cannot prevail without bringing death and desolation upon the churches. We therefore warn all our ministers and members against this system of error, and enjoin on all our Presbyteries to be firm and faithful in resisting its approaches. The Assembly lays claim to no new powers, it prescribes no new tests, it lays down no new terms of ministerial communion. It bears its testimony against prevailing errors, and it requires that those who are set as teachers and guides over the churches committed to its care should preach the doctrines which they profess to believe.

Let our churches and judicatories, then, in humble dependence upon God and in a spirit of meekness and love, adhere faithfully to the great principles of our ecclesiastical compact, never demanding more than the Constitution requires, and never being contented with less.

In order to secure doctrinal purity in our churches it is absolutely necessary that Presbyteries be faithful in guarding with sedulous care the entrance into the ministry in regard to the piety, the orthodoxy, and the learning of the candidates. These three grand qualifications are not independent of each other, but intimately connected. Our Book of Discipline requires that before any person is received as a candidate he should be subjected to an examination in regard to his piety and his motives for seeking the sacred office. There is too much reason to fear that this examination, in many Presbyteries, is slight and little more than a form, as we seldom hear of any persons rejected or kept

back for want of evidence that they are truly converted. Unless Presbyteries pay a special attention to this subject the Church will be overrun and ruined by unconverted ministers; and such are not only incapable of guiding inquirers in the way to heaven, but, possessing no sincere love to the distinguishing doctrines of the Bible, they will be constantly inclined to conceal them, to set them aside or to reject them altogether. On this subject the General Assembly would solemnly admonish all the ministers and elders in our communion to exercise a faithful care, and also to be thorough in the examination into the theological opinions of candidates. It has been found by sad experience that it is not sufficient for candidates, in the general, to answer the questions proposed in our Discipline; this they will often do while they entertain opinions diametrically repugnant to some plainly expressed articles of faith, and will go on and inculcate their erroneous opinions. This arises from a false notion respecting the true principles on which our formularies should be adopted, of which we have already spoken. Few young men are so lost to honesty that they will, before Presbytery, avow opinions which they do not believe, although they will often conceal their real opinions unless they are elicited by a searching examination.

The General Assembly feel it to be of unspeakable importance that weak, ignorant, and imprudent men should not be introduced into the ministry. Such men, though incapable of doing much good even if pious, yet may do immense mischief to the cause of true religion, and only serve to bring the holy ministry into contempt—a result against which we are repeatedly admonished in the Sacred Scriptures. It is not enough to increase the number of the clergy. The Church's wants cannot be supplied by merely multiplying the number of ministers, unless they are well qualified for the duties of the sacred office. Indeed, the greater the number of unsound or ignorant ministers the greater the injury to the Church.

Another thing of great importance in securing and promoting purity of doctrine is the election of suitable men to the office of ruling elders. Frequently it is found that men of intelligence and influence who are members of the Church shrink from this office on account of the difficulties which attend the performance of its duties. This disposition to avoid the responsibilities of the office the Assembly cannot but consider as a dereliction of duty deserving censure. A sound, intelligent, and faithful eldership is essential to the successful operation of our system. Every effort should be made, therefore, to make this class of office-bearers what the Plan of Presbyterian Church Government contemplates.

The General Assembly feel it to be important to enjoin upon all pastors the more frequent and diligent use of our formularies of doctrine. They would recommend that the Sessions of our churches hold frequent meetings for free conversation and for the study of our doctrinal formularies, as well as our discipline. They also reiterate the injunction, so often given, that great care be taken in every church to have the Shorter Catechism taught to all the youth, except that, if a class can be formed for learning the Larger Catechism, such young persons should be encouraged to commit this excellent summary of Christian doctrine. It would be satisfactory to the people, and would confirm them in the belief of the doctrines of our Church, if ministers would more frequently refer to the language of our Confession and Catechisms, and would occasionally adopt the very words of our formularies in their sermons and lectures. They also recommend that with the Catechisms the Scripture proofs ought to be carefully learned, that the people may have their faith founded, not on the authority of men, but of God.

The General Assembly also feel it to be incumbent on them to give a

warning against false teachers. The Scriptures abound with solemn admonitions on this subject, and such admonitions have always been needed, and are at this time peculiarly seasonable. Those in every age who have propagated error have been characterized by various insidious arts, by which the truth has either been subverted or so adulterated as to have its beauty disfigured and its efficacy destroyed or diminished. These false teachers are numerous and cunning and bold. They beguile unstable souls. If it were possible they would deceive the very elect. It was a commendable feature in the character of one of the churches of Asia that she had tried certain false teachers, who said that they were apostles, and had found them liars. Remember, brethren, that though an angel from heaven should bring to you any other doctrine than that you have already received from the inspired writers, he is accursed. And if any come to you and bring not the doctrines of the gospel, receive him not into your houses, neither bid him God-speed, lest ye be partaker with him in his evil deeds. Beware, then, of wolves in sheep's clothing. Beware of those who by good words and fair speeches beguile unstable souls.

The Assembly cannot refrain from a solemn warning to all their churches against books containing erroneous doctrines, however they may come recommended by men in high places. The Assembly is fully convinced that all our ministers and members ought, with the greatest care, to guard this subject, and see that they become not the patrons of books already published or proposed to be published unless they are well certified of their character.

The Assembly, moreover, feel constrained to admonish the churches of the great importance of taking and reading only such periodical papers as have the character of being sound in doctrine and advocate the genuine principles of Presbyterian government and order. It is by no means our wish to interfere in the least with the liberty of the people to buy and read such publications as they judge best, but it is our privilege and duty in all cases where the truth of God or the order of his house is concerned to *admonish* and *warn* all those who in the providence of God are placed under our watch and care. And when but one religious paper is taken by a family in our connection, it is surely not unreasonable to advise and expect that it be one which can be recommended by the ministers and judicatories of the Presbyterian Church. We are convinced that the difficulties in which our beloved Church has been involved have been, in no small degree, owing to the periodical press; and we confidently believe that unless more care be taken to guard against the circulation of unsuitable papers in our churches, the same evils from which we have escaped will again come in upon us, notwithstanding all the efforts of the pulpit to counteract them. But the only effectual remedy for the evil of which we complain is in the hands of the people. Let every member of the Presbyterian Church resolve to introduce at least one weekly paper into his house, and let that be such an one as will in all respects have a salutary influence on those who peruse it.

It would be invidious to designate particular periodicals, and this is entirely unnecessary. Let the person who wishes to subscribe for a religious newspaper take the advice of his pastor or of some judicious friend on whose honesty and judgment he can depend. The General Assembly would press this subject on the attention of their people. It has hitherto been too much overlooked, but is becoming, evidently, of primary importance. It is in vain that the pastor inculcates sound doctrine on the Sabbath day if through the week the people are occupied with books, tracts, and papers which insinuate, and even inculcate, a contrary doctrine.

In conclusion, the General Assembly would solemnly inculcate on all classes of persons a profound reverence for the Holy Scriptures. These are

the oracles of the living God, "To the law and testimony, if they speak not according to these, it is because there is no light in them." There are few things more alarming, as it relates to purity of doctrine, than the bold and unauthorized interpretations put on certain portions of the word of God by serious persons in order to maintain some favorite principle adopted by them, and which, before they begin their inquiries, they confidently presume cannot be contrary to the word of God. Instead, therefore, of humbly submitting their own opinions to the divine authority, speaking in the Sacred Scriptures, they have the audacity to wrest the truth of God and bend everything to suit their own preconceived sentiments. Against all such profane handling of the word of God the Assembly lifts up its voice of warning.

And finally, as the Holy Spirit was promised to be a guide into all truth, and as this most precious gift is still granted to the Church in answer to prayer, let all who love the truth and desire to see it universally prevail never cease to pray for this blessing, which is indeed the rich source of all good things. The strenuous defenders of the truth have been charged with holding and being contented with "a dead orthodoxy." Let us roll away this reproach as far as there is any foundation for it. While the truth may be held in unrighteousness, there is surely no natural connection between orthodoxy and dead formality. The importance of truth is such that there can be no right feeling without it; and although ignorance or error in regard to some truths may be consistent with a state of grace—for otherwise, who could be saved?—yet every truth of revelation is precious and important; so that if any portion of it is never brought to bear on the mind and heart, just so far there will be a defect in the Christian character. Just as if a seal on which is engraved a certain image or inscription, if it be ever so little marred or mutilated in the same degree leaves an imperfect impression on the wax.

Dear brethren, receive in good part our exhortation. We sincerely aim to promote your spiritual welfare. Our lot is cast in an eventful and critical period as it relates to our ecclesiastical affairs. After much and long agitation a great schism has occurred. A large number of those recently comprehended in the same denomination with us have now gone out from us. In this whole transaction the providence of God has been very remarkable. Let us now endeavor, as becomes the sincere disciples of the meek and lowly Jesus, while we *contend* for the faith once delivered to the saints, to be careful not to *strive* about words to no profit or with a spirit unbecoming the Christian character. Faith and charity are twin sisters, and should never be separated. See that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently. BRETHREN, THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST BE WITH YOU ALL.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.

THE General Assembly has under its care *seventeen* Synods, comprising *ninety-six* Presbyteries, viz.:

1. The Synod of Albany, containing the *six* Presbyteries of Londonderry, Newburyport, Ogdensburgh, Troy, Albany, and Columbia.

2. The Synod of New York, containing the *seven* Presbyteries of Hudson, North River, Bedford, Long Island, Long Island 2d, New York, and New York 2d.

3. The Synod of New Jersey, containing the *five* Presbyteries of Elizabethtown, New Brunswick, Newton, Susquehanna, and Caledonia.

4. The Synod of Philadelphia, containing the *seven* Presbyteries of Philadelphia, Philadelphia 2d, New Castle, Baltimore, Carlisle, Huntingdon, and Northumberland.

5. The Synod of Pittsburgh, containing the *ten* Presbyteries of Blairsville, Redstone, Washington, Ohio, Allegheny, Steubenville, St. Clairsville, Beaver, New Lisbon, and Erie.

6. The Synod of Ohio, containing the *five* Presbyteries of Columbus, Marion, Lancaster, Richland, and Wooster.

7. The Synod of Cincinnati, containing the *five* Presbyteries of Chillicothe, Miami, Cincinnati, Oxford, and Sidney.

8. The Synod of Indiana, containing the *six* Presbyteries of Salem, Vincennes, Madison, Crawfordsville, Indianapolis, and Logansport.

9. The Synod of Illinois, containing the *five* Presbyteries of Kaskaskia, Sangamon, Schuyler, Palestine, and Peoria.

10. The Synod of Missouri, containing the *three* Presbyteries of Missouri, St. Louis, and St. Charles.

11. The Synod of Kentucky, containing the *five* Presbyteries of Louisville, Muhlenburg, Transylvania, West Lexington, and Ebenezer.

12. The Synod of Virginia, containing the *seven* Presbyteries of Abingdon, Greenbrier, Lexington, Winchester, District of Columbia, West Hanover, and East Hanover.

13. The Synod of North Carolina, containing the *five* Presbyteries of Roanoke, Orange, Fayetteville, Concord, and Morganton.

14. The Synod of Tennessee, containing the *six* Presbyteries of Holston, West Tennessee, Nashville, Shiloh, North Alabama, and Western District.

15. The Synod of South Carolina and Georgia, containing the *seven* Presbyteries of South Carolina, Bethel, Harmony, Charleston Union, Georgia, Hopewell, and Flint River.

16. The Synod of Alabama, containing the *three* Presbyteries of South Alabama, Tuscaloosa, and Tombeckbee.

17. The Synod of Mississippi, containing the *four* Presbyteries of Mississippi, Clinton, Arkansas, and Louisiana.

SUMMARY VIEW OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES, FOR 1839.

PRESBYTERIES.	Ministers.	Licentiate.	Candidates.	Churches.	Examination.	Com. added on Certificate.	Total of Communicants.	Adults Baptized.	Infants Baptized.	Funds raised for Missions.	Funds raised for Foreign Missions.	Funds raised for Education.	Funds raised for Theological Seminaries.	Funds raised for Tracts and Books.	Funds raised for Commis-sioners.	Contingent Fund.	STATED CLERKS OF PRESBYTERIES.
Londonberry	24	1	...	12	155	10	2001	39	38	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$16 00	.....	Edward L. Parker.
Newburyport	3	...	...	3	.....	...	478	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	John A. Savage.
Ogdensburg	7	2	3	7	32	74	1105	7	50	\$693 50	\$632 75	.....	.....	.....	40 00	\$11 00	John Clancy.
Troy	30	3	5	28	160	115	3161	41	132	1097 42	1395 59	577 40	.....	.....	71 57	224 00	John H. Leggett.
Albany	25	...	...	25	76	26	1900	37	76	359 00	315 00	100 00	\$10 00	.....	37 65	26 00	John Johnston.
Hudson	5	...	...	3	10	12	309	2	18	230 00	70 00	.....	2667 71	.....	15 22	5 00	Jacob Green.
North River	16	...	3	16	69	24	1386	28	36	425 36	425 36	261 78	.....	\$20 00	50 48	15 33	James M'Dougall.
Bedford	9	...	1	10	100	25	1009	55	59	.....	13 40	.....	.....	.....	18 99	2 95	Elias W. Crane.
Long Island	26	8	9	14	101	86	2592	18	120	1310 17	1559 58	1948 79	25 00	1248 40	155 71	122 98	Joseph M'Elroy, D.D.
Long York	8	...	...	8	46	46	845	7	38	1895 00	1895 00	750 00	.....	.....	70 20	16 00	James M. Hunting.
New York 2d	29	6	4	22	73	114	3399	24	163	941 49	2097 93	676 60	.....	205 00	35 81	35 81	Eli F. Cooley.
Elizabethtown	34	16	4	21	168	120	3233	98	104	710 36	710 36	1721 32	15 50	.....	63 37	61 37	Isaac N. Candee.
New Brunswick	27	3	6	39	152	111	4188	33	238	443 00	735 75	315 56	50 00	230 00	8 00	14 00	John Dorrance.
Newton	10	1	3	16	14	34	965	4	32	166 67	130 05	36 58	.....	.....	34 00	.....	Isaac W. Platt.
Susquehanna	8	...	...	5	8	4	317	...	17	54 44	54 44	5 00	.....	.....	33 00	4 00	William L. M'Calla.
Caledonia	28	6	8	25	169	83	2241	48	119	2154 50	2454 50	2560 00	.....	.....	87 00	10 00	William D. Howard.
Philadelpia	18	5	4	18	157	114	2062	36	113	1675 17	1852 58	804 85	.....	6 25	65 02	63 37	John H. Symmes.
Philadelphia 2d	29	5	2	35	147	44	3193	53	121	210 00	1531 33	287 38	.....	30 00	60 01	3 00	Geo. W. Musgrave.
Newcastle	12	6	2	11	67	15	1289	2	62	1855 00	3827 00	1894 00	621 00	.....	.....	.....	James C. Watson.
Baltimore	27	3	4	43	161	59	3175	18	188	319 29	593 65	395 89	11 75	110 00	32 28	13 50	Joshua Moore.
Carlisle	20	3	3	34	155	76	3326	35	232	272 77	1347 59	90 40	.....	12 50	60 00	12 00	Isaac Grier.
Huntington	17	1	1	24	90	24	1723	12	170	483 55	483 55	.....	366 85	.....	68 29	10 00	Samuel McFarren.
Northumberland	18	2	2	32	192	90	3724	25	324	350 45	475 73	341 39	61 81	.....	90 83	10 00	Asbel G. Fairchild.
Blairsville	14	3	4	28	106	39	2780	29	199	575 50	595 50	73 50	146 00	36 00	60 54	6 50	William P. Atrieh.
Redstone	17	5	12	24	142	92	3557	31	261	1614 45	1627 38	1558 24	473 98	110 66	85 81	16 25	William Jeffery.
Washington	37	3	4	31	178	145	3668	43	259	780 04	2061 39	1431 65	1025 61	1374 07	133 13	39 81	Loyal Young.
Ohio	15	...	4	27	154	65	2651	35	275	91 52	363 58	144 24	24 37	3 00	51 83	7 17	Charles C. Beatty.
Allegheny	15	...	2	24	172	155	2036	25	235	169 19	536 95	405 50	141 37	5 00	71 60	4 00	Benjamin Mitchell.
Steubenville	12	...	...	18	45	41	953	9	87	16 00	3 00	116 00	57 00	33 00	83 00	.....	.....

Lexington.....	28	3	5	38	29	43	4609	7	83	333 93	25 50	447 62	116 25	50 00	117 50	4 00	John A. Van Lear.	
Winchester.....	14	3	6	32	13	6	749	...	55	132 00	392 16	237 42	10 50	.....	10 00	28 00	Peyton Harrison.	
Dis. of Columbia.....	5	2	...	...	5	8	362	...	23	60 00	90 00	40 00	.....	70 00	29 00	4 00	Elias Harrison.	
West Hanover.....	29	10	1	36	59	52	1315	28	51	326 25	100 00	20 00	.....	.....	103 00	6 00	James Wharey.	
East Hanover.....	12	4	3	14	61	83	888	22	66	894 60	1698 83	726 37	635 00	.....	97 00	20 00	John B. Spotswood.	
Ronoke.....	8	...	...	13	12	9	317	3	14	51 78	164 60	182 57	.....	.....	56 68	3 00	Drury Lacy.	
Orange.....	19	3	5	30	33	28	1735	14	79	241 21	238 68	383 85	219 00	73 87	90 00	14 00	N. H. Harding.	
Fayetteville.....	22	...	13	43	174	7	3608	18	124	97 45	892 23	180 00	.....	.....	154 00	14 50	D. M. Neil Turner.	
Concord.....	24	2	1	32	210	40	3679	45	252	813 00	813 00	87 00	50 00	.....	93 00	9 50	Samuel Williamson.	
Morganton.....	7	...	...	20	39	7	886	15	54	134 91	16 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 50	J. S. McCutchan.	
Holston.....	5	1	2	11	15	4	625	4	31	39 00	39 00	.....	.....	.....	73 74	4 50	Samuel W. Doak.	
West Tennessee.....	10	1	...	15	38	8	1139	2	52	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Thomas F. Scott.	
Nashville.....	10	...	...	7	17	10	341	4	22	442 00	68 00	232 50	.....	.....	144 50	7 00	John T. Edgar, D. D.	
Shiloh.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...					James Weatherby.
North Alabama.....	8	...	...	16	22	11	573	4	10	485 00	285 00	.....	.....	.....	55 74	6 50	Alex. A. Campbell.	
Western District.....	12	2	2	29	26	52	457	6	39	23 75	.....	95 00	.....	.....	41 50	.....	Samuel B. Lewers.	
South Carolina.....	17	2	...	37	4	51	677	7	53	118 25	118 25	.....	42 50	.....	181 50	.....	John B. Davies.	
Bethel.....	11	1	1	19	80	20	2956	18	91	79 81	230 87	82 68	.....	.....	148 00	7 00	George Howe, D. D.	
Harmony.....	20	6	6	28	38	24	2341	7	44	358 12	1212 00	638 25	907 50	21 00	128 00	10 00	Benj. Gildersleeve.	
Charleston Union.....	9	...	...	5	30	11	450	20	11	174 00	556 00	.....	106 00	.....	.....	1 00	N. A. Pratt.	
Georgia.....	12	...	1	10	6	6	291	4	20	5 00	1168 00	325 00	305 00	355 00	40 00	.....	Francis Bowman.	
Hopewell.....	20	1	...	37	...	...	1013	...	...	685 92	381 37	305 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	James C. Patterson.	
Flint River.....	15	7	...	33	138	69	1482	...	145	685 92	381 37	305 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	T. S. Witherspoon.	
South Alabama.....	20	1	6	37	117	134	1833	45	106	27 12	977 31	415 00	.....	45 50	236 00	10 75	James N. Carothers.	
Tusculooza.....	14	...	3	22	181	143	1008	46	148	708 14	708 14	349 18	.....	.....	235 50	14 00	Thomas C. Stuart.	
Tombeckeo.....	14	1	1	24	38	90	627	9	41	69 75	69 75	.....	.....	.....	176 10	11 50	J. Chamberlain, D. D.	
Mississippi.....	10	9	8	14	29	33	656	3	45	2862 62	3124 62	1114 00	.....	400 00	190 00	30 00	John R. Hutchinson.	
Clinton.....	6	1	...	8	6	53	167	3	9	97 50	97 50	50 00	.....	.....	.....	50	Joel Wood.	
Arkansas (1838).....	8	1	...	6	27	10	239	20	47	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Benjamin Chase.	
Louisiana (1838).....	12	3	...	11	39	10	266	13	67	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Totals.....	1243	192	175	1823	6377	4127	128043	1644	7712	33989	45	51307	30	5114	5791	62	1153	04

REMARKS ON THE PRECEDING STATISTICAL TABLE AND
SUMMARY VIEW.

Of the 96 Presbyteries reported as in connection with the General Assembly, Statistical Reports have been received from only 86, leaving 10 deficient. With regard to four of these—viz. Muhlenburg, Abingdon, Arkansas, and Louisiana—their statistics are given in the Summary View as they were in 1838 or 1837, because it is supposed that these Presbyteries remain much as they then were. The other six Presbyteries—of Newburyport, Columbia, Long Island, Chillicothe, St. Louis, and Shiloh—are left blanks in the Summary View, as the Stated Clerk has no means of even forming an opinion in regard to the portion of their ministers and churches adhering to the Assembly. It is to be regretted that many of the Presbyteries are deficient in giving reports from their churches. Of the 1823 churches reported as belonging to the General Assembly, 480 have not reported their number of communicants. The 128,043 given as the sum-total of the communicants is the number in only 1343 churches. The Stated Clerk has examined the Reports of 1838 and 1837 to ascertain the number of communicants in those years in the 480 churches from which no reports have been received this year. From a number of them no reports were received in either 1838 or 1837.

Those of the 480 churches which did report in either of those years contained then 24,408 communicants. Add this sum to the 128,043, reported as the sum-total this year, and we shall have as the whole number of communicants at this time 152,451. The number would doubtless be found to be something more if the entire accuracy so long sought by the Assembly and often and earnestly urged upon the Presbyteries could be obtained.

1840.

PHILADELPHIA, *May 21st, 1840.*

THE General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America met agreeably to appointment in the Seventh Presbyterian Church, in the city of Philadelphia, on Thursday, the 21st day of May, A. D. 1840, at 11 o'clock A. M.; and was opened by a sermon by the Rev. Joshua L. Wilson, D. D., the Moderator of the last Assembly, from 1 Corinthians xi. 19: "For there must be also heresies among you, that they which are approved may be made manifest among you."

After the sermon the Moderator gave notice that as soon as the benediction was pronounced he would take the chair and proceed to the organization of the Assembly. The benediction being pronounced, the Moderator took the chair, and opened the meeting with prayer.

The Permanent Clerk, from the Standing Committee of Commissions, reported that the following persons, present, have been duly appointed and are hereby enrolled as Commissioners to this General Assembly, and laid their commissions on the table, viz.:

I. OF THE SYNOD OF ALBANY.

PRESBYTERIES.	BISHOPS.	RULING ELDERS.
<i>Londonderry,</i>	Thomas Savage.	
<i>Newburyport.</i>		
<i>Ogdensburgh,</i>	John Savage,	John Fine * (7).
<i>Troy,</i>	Reuben Smith,	Robert D. Silliman (1).
<i>Albany,</i>	James Donald,	David Morrison (1).
		Henry Doolittle.
<i>Columbia,</i>	Alden Scovel (1).	

II. OF THE SYNOD OF NEW YORK.

<i>Hudson,</i>	Ralph Bull,	Roswell Mead.
<i>North River,</i>	Nath. S. Prime,	William Sterling.
<i>Bedford,</i>	William Patterson,	Caleb Roscoe.
<i>Long Island,</i>	Hugh N. Wilson.	
<i>Long Island (2d),</i>	Ezra King,	Samuel B. Lee.
<i>New York,</i>	Gardiner Spring, D. D.,	Hugh Auchincloss.
	Ichabod S. Spencer,	Horace Holden.
<i>New York (2d),</i>	Jacob J. Janeway, D. D.,	William Steele (1).

III. OF THE SYNOD OF NEW JERSEY.

<i>Elizabethtown,</i>	Joseph Cory,	John Littel (1).
	Oscar Harris.	
<i>New Brunswick,</i>	Benj. H. Rice, D. D.,	Frederick Richmond.
	Daniel V. McLean.	

* A figure attached to the name of a member shows that he was not enrolled by the Committee of Commissions in their report at the opening of the Assembly, but that he was subsequently enrolled and took his seat on that day of the sessions designated by the figure.

PRESBYTERIES.

Newton,
Raritan,
Susquehanna,
Caledonia,

BISHOPS.

Leslie Irwin,
 James Scott (1),
 George Printz,
 John H. Redington,

RULING ELDERS.

Ephraim Marsh.
 William Long (1).
 P. Coburn.
 Isaac J. Lewis.

IV. OF THE SYNOD OF PHILADELPHIA.

Philadelphia,

Wm. M. Engles, D. D.,
 Henry A. Boardman,

Alex. W. Mitchell.
 Charles Collins.

Philadelphia (2d),

John Mason,
 Alexander Heberton (1),

Isaac Van Artsdalen.
 Wm. B. Ewing (1).

West Jersey,

John N. C. Grier,

Alexander Crawford.

New Castle,

James Latta,

Robert Clark.

Baltimore,

Andrew B. Cross,

Michael S. Baer (4).

Carlisle,

Alex. T. M'Gill,

Samuel Hepburn.

Saml. H. McDonald,

Alexander Thompson.

Huntingdon,

David Sterrett,

Isaac McCord.

Northumberland,

Phineas B. Marr,

John B. Boyd.

V. OF THE SYNOD OF PITTSBURGH.

Blairsville,

James Graham,

John Cunningham (2).

Redstone,

Ezekiel Quillin,

Moses B. Porter.

Washington,

Robert M. White,

Thomas Orr (2).

Ohio,

Alan D. Campbell,

Malcom Leech.

George Marshall,

Thomas Kiddoo.

Allegheny,

John Core,

Walter Lowrie.

Steubenville,

Henry G. Comingo,

James D. Scott.

St. Clairsville,

James Kerr,

A. F. Hanna.

Beaver,

Aaron Williams,

John Nesbit.

New Lisbon,

Edwin H. Nevin.

Erie,

Absalom McCready,

Wm. M. Francis.

VII. OF THE SYNOD OF OHIO.

Columbus,

Hugh R. Price,

Samuel S. Denny.

Marion,

John A. Dunlop,

James H. Gill.

Lancaster,

James Anderson,

Leonard P. Bailey.

Richland,

James Rowland (1).

Wooster,

Benjamin I. Low.

VIII. OF THE SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

Chillicothe.

Miami,

John L. Belville,

Washing'n J. McKee.

Cincinnati,

Josh. L. Wilson, D. D.,

David Lee.

Oxford,

John S. Weaver,

Joseph Markle.

Sidney,

William McGookin,

Joseph Moody.

VIII. OF THE SYNOD OF INDIANA.

Salem,

Wm. C. Anderson.

Vincennes.

Madison,

Erasmus D. MacMaster.

PRESBYTERIES.

Crawfordsville,
Indianapolis,
Logansport,

BISHOPS.

William A. Holliday (2).
 Joseph G. Monfort.
 Alex. Williamson.

RULING ELDERS.

IX. OF THE SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.

Kaskaskia,
Sangamon,
Schuyler,
Palestine.
Peoria.

Benj. F. Spillman.
 Thomas Galt (3).
 James Stafford.

X. OF THE SYNOD OF MISSOURI.

Missouri,
St. Louis,
St. Charles,

John L. Yantis.
 John F. Cowan.
 Joseph Anderson.

XI. OF THE SYNOD OF KENTUCKY.

Louisville,
Muhlenburg,
Transylvania,
West Lexington,
Ebenezer,

Sylvester Seovel,
 Wm. D. Jones,
 Saml. B. Robertson.
 Wm. H. Forsythe.
 David S. Todd,

George Bergen.
 Andw. J. McElvaine (1).

 Saml. Feemster.

XII. OF THE SYNOD OF VIRGINIA.

Abington.
Greenbrier,
Lexington,

Winchester,
District of Columbia,
West Hanover,
East Hanover,

Wm. G. Campbell.
 Samuel Brown,
 Alex. B. McCorkle,
 William N. Scott.
 Eliphalet Bosworth,
 Wm. S. White,
 John D. Matthews,

Samuel Crawford.
 Chas. L. Francisco (4).

 James McKenzie (2).
 John B. Hart (3).
 Benjamin C. Jones.

XIII. OF THE SYNOD OF NORTH CAROLINA.

Orange,

Fayetteville,
Concord,
Morganton.

Arch. D. Montgomery,
 Wm. McPheeters, D.D.
 Hector McNeill.
 John M. M. Caldwell,

Charles W. Harris.

XIV. OF THE SYNOD OF TENNESSEE.

Holston,
West Tennessee.
Nashville,
North Alabama.
Western District,

Samuel Y. Wyly,

 James I. Helm.
 Jephtha Harrison,

William Deery.

 James T. Leath (2).

XV. OF THE SYNOD OF SOUTH CAROLINA AND GEORGIA.

PRESBYTERIES.

South Carolina,
Bethel,
Harmony,
Charleston,
Georgia,
Hopewell,
Flint River,
South Alabama,

BISHOPS.

Edwin Cater,
 William B. Davies.
 Wm. Brearly (2).
 J. H. Thornwell.
 Robert Dunlap,
 Henry Safford.
 Wm. T. Hamilton,

RULING ELDERS.

Joseph N. Whitner.

 Peter Sken Smith.

 Grigsby E. Thomas.
 James B. McJunkin.

XVI. OF THE SYNOD OF ALABAMA.

Tuscaloosa,
Tombeckbee.

Fields Bradshaw.

XVII. OF THE SYNOD OF MISSISSIPPI.

Mississippi,
Clinton.
Arkansas.
Louisiana.

Robert L. Stanton.

FROM CORRESPONDING BODIES.

BISHOPS.

General Association
of Connecticut,

Stephen Dodd.
 Thos. Punderson.

LAYMEN.

The committee further reported that the Rev. James Rowland, of the Presbytery of Richland, and Mr. Andrew J. McElvaine, a ruling elder of the Presbytery of Muhlenburg, are present without commissions; that the Rev. Alden Scovell has presented a commission from the Presbytery of Columbia, which Presbytery has been continued by the minority thereof agreeably to the order of the last Assembly; that the Rev. Alexander Heberton, and Mr. William B. Ewing, a ruling elder, have presented commissions from a new Presbytery called West Jersey; and that the Rev. James Scott and Mr. William Long, a ruling elder, have presented commissions from a new Presbytery called Raritan.

After the report of the Committee of Commissions had been read, the Moderator gave notice to such Commissioners as were present, but had not had an opportunity of presenting their commissions, that they might now be presented to the Committee of Commissions.

On motion, Messrs. Engles, Belville, and Denny were appointed a Committee of Elections, to whom were referred the cases of the Commissioners reported, but not enrolled, by the Committee of Commissions.

And then the Assembly took a recess till this afternoon at 5 o'clock.

Thursday afternoon, 5 o'clock.

The Assembly met.

The minutes of this morning's session were read and approved.

The Committee of Commissions reported the following additional Commissioners—viz. Messrs. David Morrison, a ruling elder of the Presbytery of Albany; Robert D. Silliman, a ruling elder of the Presbytery of Troy; William Steele, a ruling elder of the Second Presbytery of New York; and John Littell, a ruling elder of the Presbytery of Elizabeth Town; who were enrolled.

The Committee of Elections made a report which was accepted and adopted as follows, viz.:

That they have examined the several cases to them referred, and find that the Presbytery of West Jersey, of the Synod of Philadelphia, and the Presbytery of Raritan, of the Synod of New Jersey, are new Presbyteries formed since the last meeting of the Assembly by the regular action of their respective Synods. They also find that the Presbytery of Columbia, of the Synod of Albany, has been continued, agreeably to the recommendation of the last Assembly, by the minority of the Presbytery of Columbia, the majority of which has seceded from the Presbyterian Church, and that it has been formally recognized by the Synod of Albany. The committee therefore recommend that the Presbyteries of West Jersey, Raritan, and Columbia be recognized by the Assembly, and that the following Commissioners be enrolled—viz. Alexander Heberton, bishop, and William B. Ewing, ruling elder, of the Presbytery of West Jersey; James Scott, bishop, and William Long, ruling elder, of the Presbytery of Raritan; and Alden Seovell, bishop, of the Presbytery of Columbia.

It has also appeared to the committee that James Rowland, bishop, of the Presbytery of Richland, was duly appointed a Commissioner to the Assembly, but had mislaid his commission; and that Andrew J. McElvaine, ruling elder, of the Presbytery of Muhlenburg, had been appointed a Commissioner, but the Clerk of his Presbytery had neglected to transmit him his commission. The committee therefore recommend that James Rowland, bishop, of the Presbytery of Richland, and Andrew J. McElvaine, ruling elder, of the Presbytery of Muhlenburg, be enrolled as members of the Assembly.

The Rev. William M. Engles, D. D., was elected Moderator, and the Rev. Sylvester Seovel, Temporary Clerk.

The docket was presented by the Stated Clerk, and read.

The printed *Minutes* of the last Assembly were presented, and distributed to the members.

On motion of Mr. Matthews,

Resolved, That it be a standing rule of this body that the Permanent Clerk annually cause to be printed a number of copies of the roll, not exceeding 500, for the use of the members, as soon as practicable after the appointment of the standing committees.

A letter was received from the Synod of Ulster, which was read, and,

On motion, it was *Resolved*, that a Committee of Foreign Correspondence be appointed, and that the aforesaid letter be referred to that committee to be answered.

A letter was received from the United Associate Synod of the Secession Church of Scotland, which was read; and on motion it was referred to the Committee of Correspondence.

And then the Assembly adjourned till to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday morning, May 22d, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The roll was called.

The Committee of Commissions reported the following additional Commissioners—viz. John Cunningham, a ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Blairsville; Thomas Orr, a ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Washington; Rev. William A. Holliday, from the Presbytery of Crawfordsville; James T. Leath, a ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Western District; and Rev. William Brearly, from the Presbytery of Harmony; who were enrolled.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Moderator announced the following committees, viz. :

On Bills and Overtures.—Messrs. Spring, Rice, Prime, Safford, A. Seovell, Yantis, Lowrie, P. S. Smith, B. C. Jones, C. W. Harris.

Judicial Committee.—Messrs. J. L. Wilson, J. A. Savage, A. D. Campbell, W. C. Anderson, Williamson, Marsh, Hepburn, MeJunkin, Holden Thompson.

On Leave of Absence.—Messrs. Cater, McNeil, Cowan, R. W. Smith, Bergen.

On Mileage.—Messrs. Mitchell, Steele, S. Crawford.

On Devotional Exercises.—Messrs. Cross, Spenceer, Redington.

On the Narrative of the State of Religion.—Messrs. Boardman, MacMaster, Matthews, Monfort, Moody.

On Foreign Correspondence.—Messrs. Janeway, Thornwell, McGill, J. Scott, Auchincloss.

On Synodical records, viz. :

Albany—Messrs Bull, Patterson, Roseoe.

New York—Messrs. Cory, Irwin, Richmond.

New Jersey—Messrs. Hamilton, McDonald, Boyd.

Philadelphia—Messrs. Graham, Williams, Leach.

Pittsburgh—Messrs. Latta, J. A. Dunlop, McKee.

Ohio—Messrs. Belville, Spilman, Markle.

Cincinnati—Messrs. Scovel, Jas. Anderson, Feemster.

Indiana—Messrs. W. D. Jones, Todd, Porter.

Illinois—Messrs. W. G. Campbell, Rowland, Nesbit.

Missouri—Messrs. McGookin, Stafford, McElvaine.

Kentucky—Messrs. Low, McCready, McCord.

Virginia—Messrs. Mason, R. Dunlap, Whitner.

North Carolina—Messrs. Stanton, Bradshaw, Deery.

Tennessee—Messrs. Davies, Caldwell, Cookus.

South Carolina and Georgia—Messrs. Harrison, Robertson, Hanna.

Alabama—Messrs. Forsythe, Jas. Anderson, Ewing.

Mississippi—Messrs. Marr, Core, Roscoe.

A letter was received from the Congregational Union of England and Wales, together with copies of their minutes and missionary reports. The letter was read, and on motion it was referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence; and the accompanying documents were referred to Messrs. O. Harris, Printz, and Sterling, who were instructed to inquire into the expediency of establishing a library for the use of the General Assembly.

On motion, *Resolved*, That it be a standing rule of this body that the Stated Clerk shall annually forward *eight* copies each of the Minutes of the General Assembly and of the annual reports of the several Boards of the General Assembly to each of the ecclesiastical bodies with which the Assembly is in correspondence.

A letter from the Hon. John Sergeant to the Stated Clerk was presented and read, and on motion it was ordered to be inserted in the minutes.

It is as follows, viz. :

Philadelphia, June 23, 1839.

REV. AND DEAR SIR: I have received your note of this date, and the accompanying extract from the minutes of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America. You may readily believe how much we must be gratified by the resolutions which relate to us who were counsel in the late interesting trial for the General Assembly, and to the character in general of the profession to which we belong. For my-

self, I can truly say that nothing has occurred in the course of my professional life for which I feel more thankful than that my health and strength were sufficiently restored to enable me to take some part in the case, and to entitle me to participate with my colleagues in the kind expressions of the reverend and respected gentlemen whose resolutions you have transmitted to us. Be pleased to accept for them my earnest wishes that their labors for the good of their fellow-men may always be crowned with like success.

Yours, very truly,

JOHN SERGEANT.

REV. DR. McDOWELL,

Stated Clerk of the General Assembly.

On motion, it was Ordered, That the Synodical records be called for, and put into the hands of the respective committees, this afternoon at 3½ o'clock.

A memorial from the Presbytery of Tombeckbee, in relation to a proposed division of their Presbytery and to its boundary-lines, was received and read, and on motion it was referred to Messrs. Mitchell, Harrison, and Bradshaw.

The Permanent Clerk reported the following items of judicial business—viz. an appeal and complaint of W. J. Frazer, against the Synod of Illinois; an appeal of the First Presbyterian Church of Peoria, against the Synod of Illinois; a complaint of the church of Crab-Apple, against the Synod of Pittsburgh; a complaint of the Presbytery of Blairsville, against the Synod of Pittsburgh; which were referred to the Judicial Committee.

On motion, Messrs. T. Savage, R. Smith, and Mead were appointed a committee to report a standing rule in respect to the order of receiving the annual reports of the several Boards of the General Assembly.

A memorial from the Presbytery of Baltimore, in relation to the duties of the Stated Clerk, was received and read; and, on motion, it was laid on the table.

The annual report of the Directors of the Western Theological Seminary was presented, read, and referred to Messrs. Donald, Heberton, and Grier.

The annual report of the Directors of the Union Theological Seminary was presented, read, approved, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix.

A communication from the Presbytery of Newburyport, in relation to the directions of the last Assembly respecting their connection with the General Assembly, was received, read, and referred to Messrs. R. Smith, J. D. Scott, and Marshall.

On motion, the consideration of the subject of appointing a professor of Oriental Literature and Biblical Criticism at the Western Theological Seminary was made the order of the day for Monday next at 3½ o'clock.

The Stated Clerk made a report in relation to the publication of all the minutes of the Presbyterian Church; whereupon, it was

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk be continued as a committee on the publication of all the minutes of the Supreme Judiciary of the Presbyterian Church, from its origin in the United States; and that he have the same published as speedily as possible, provided it can be done without involving the funds of the Assembly in any expense; and provided also, that the Stated Clerk first offer the publication aforesaid to the Board of Publication, to be published by said Board or declined as to them may seem expedient.

The annual report of the Treasurer of the Trustees of the General Assembly was presented, approved, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix. The Treasurer's book of accounts was presented and laid on the table.

On motion,

Resolved, That the reception of the Presbyterian narratives on the state of religion be made the order of the day for to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock.

A letter was received from the Rev. John McDowell, D. D., tendering his resignation of the office of Stated Clerk; and on motion it was referred to Messrs. Rice, Cross, and Mitchell.

And then the Assembly adjourned till this afternoon at 5 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday afternoon, 5 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee of Commissions reported an additional Commissioner—viz. James McKenzie, a ruling elder, from the Presbytery of the District of Columbia; who was enrolled.

The committee to whom was referred the report of the Directors of the Western Theological Seminary reported recommending that the report of that Board be approved and printed in the Appendix to the *Minutes*. Adopted.

The subject of the boundary-line between the Synods of Alabama and Mississippi (see printed *Minutes* of the last Assembly), was taken up and referred to the committee on the memorial from the Presbytery of Tombeckbee.

A communication was received from the Rev. James W. Alexander, requesting to be excused from serving on the committee to revise the Psalms and Hymns. The request was granted; and on motion, the Rev. George Potts, D. D., was appointed a member of the committee.

On motion, the Assembly proceeded to appoint a place for the meeting of the next Assembly. Nominations were made; and it was

Resolved, That the next General Assembly be required to meet in the city of Philadelphia.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures reported Overtures Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, viz.:

No. 1. From Mr. William Ladd, President and General Agent of the American Peace Society, asking to be heard by the Assembly on the subject of peace; recommending that Mr. Ladd be heard this afternoon.

No. 2. From the Presbytery of Miami on the subject of the appointment of deacons; with a resolution that it be enjoined upon all the Presbyteries under the care of the General Assembly to take such order on this subject as shall secure the appointment of deacons in all the churches in which it has been neglected.

No. 3. A petition from the elders and deacons of the church of St. Charles.

No. 4. A communication from the Apple Creek church.

No. 5. A memorial of a convention of certain ministers and elders of the Synod of Missouri; also a memorial from the Presbytery of St. Charles.

No. 6. A communication from the Rev. R. R. Gurley, General Agent of the American Colonization Society.

On motion, No. 1 was laid on the table.

No. 2 was considered, until

The Assembly adjourned till to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday morning, May 23d, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Committee of Commissions reported the following additional Commissioners—viz. Rev. Thomas Galt, from the Presbytery of Sangamon, and John B. Hart, a ruling elder, from the Presbytery of West Hanover, who were enrolled.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

On motion, it was *Resolved*, That the calling of the roll be dispensed with until otherwise ordered.

The Assembly resumed the unfinished business of yesterday—viz. the report of the Committee of Bills and Overtures. No. 2 was further considered, and the resolution was amended and adopted as follows, viz. :

That it be enjoined upon all the Presbyteries under the care of the General Assembly to take such order on this subject as shall secure the appointment of deacons in all the churches, with the exception of those in which it is impracticable from the paucity of male members.

Overture No. 3 was referred to Messrs. R. M. White, Comingo, Helm, W. S. White, and Brown.

No. 4 was referred to Messrs. Yantis, Marshall, and Kerr.

No. 5 was put on the docket.

No. 6 was read and laid on the table.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day, and the narratives of the Presbyteries of the state of religion were received and put into the hands of the Committee on the Narrative.

The Judicial Committee reported, as in order, Judicial Business No. 1—viz. The appeal and complaint of Rev. W. J. Frazer, against the Synod of Illinois, for confirming the sentence of the Presbytery of Kaskaskia, whereby he was suspended from the gospel ministry.

It was put on the docket.

On motion of Mr. McLean, it was

Resolved, That the Treasurer of the Trustees of the General Assembly be, and he is hereby, requested to present a special report, during the sessions of the present Assembly, showing the whole amount of receipts and expenditures in the recent lawsuit in which the Assembly has been involved, specifying the amount paid by each Presbytery, and by individuals and congregations, toward the special fund; and that he also report those Presbyteries which have failed to make any contribution to this fund.

The committee on the order in which the annual reports of the Assembly's Boards shall be received reported the following order, which was adopted, viz. :

Board of Foreign Missions, on Tuesday next, at 10 o'clock.

Board of Missions, on Wednesday, at 10 o'clock.

Board of Education, on Thursday, at 10 o'clock.

Board of Publication, on Friday, at 10 o'clock.

The committee on the devotional exercises of Wednesday afternoon next made a report, which was amended and adopted as follows, viz. :

1. Invocation and reading the Scriptures, by the Moderator;

2. Psalmody, by Mr. R. Smith;

3. Address, by Mr. J. A. Savage;

4. Prayer, by Mr. S. Scovel;

5. Psalmody, by Mr. Punderson;

6. Address, by Mr. Dodd;

7. Psalmody, by Mr. Graham;

8. Address, by Mr. Thornwell;

9. Prayer, by Mr. Spencer;

10. Psalmody, by Dr. McPheeters;

11. Doxology and Benediction, by Dr. Janeway.

On motion, it was *Resolved*, That Messrs. Thornwell, Bradshaw, A. D. Campbell, Thomas, and Holden be a special committee to report on the causes of ministerial inefficiency, and to suggest for the action of this body such measures for the remedy of the evil as to them may seem consistent with the word of God.

On motion, Judicial Business No. 1 was made the order of the day for Monday next, at 9 o'clock.

A special report from the Trustees of the General Assembly respecting the limitations of their powers was received, read, and referred to Messrs. Spring, Lowrie, and Hepburn.

The committee to whom were referred the documents received from the Congregational Union of England and Wales, and who were to inquire into the expediency of establishing a library for the use of the Assembly, made a report that inasmuch as the Board of Publication have commenced a collection of books which will form the nucleus of a library accessible at all times, it is inexpedient to establish any other. The report was adopted. And it was *Resolved*, That the documents aforesaid be distributed as follows—viz. one copy of the minutes to the Green Library at Princeton; one to the library of the Board of Foreign Missions, and one to the library of the Board of Publication; and one copy of the report on missions to the Board of Foreign Missions, and one copy to the Board of Missions.

An invitation was received from the Inspectors of the Eastern State Penitentiary of Pennsylvania to visit that institution, which was accepted.

And then the Assembly adjourned till Monday morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday morning, May 25th, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Committee of Commissions reported an additional Commissioner—viz. Charles L. Franceseo, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Lexington; who was enrolled.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Judicial Committee reported, in order, Judicial Business Nos. 2 and 4, viz.:

No. 2. A complaint of several members of the church of Crab Apple against the Synod of Pittsburgh in reversing a decision of the Presbytery of St. Clairsville in reference to the organization of a church in the town of New Athens.

No. 4. A complaint of the Presbytery of Blairsville against the Synod of Pittsburgh in reference to the condemnation or non-approval of the decision of said Presbytery, made October 2d, 1839, on an overture in the following words: "To whom belongs the right of deciding when an addition to the Session is necessary, and how many are to be added?"

Which were put on the docket.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day—viz. the appeal of W. J. Frazer against the Synod of Illinois.

The sentence appealed from, the appellant's reasons for appealing, and the records of the inferior courts in the case were read. Mr. Frazer, the appellant, and Mr. James Stafford, his prosecutor, who are the original parties, were heard, until

The Assembly adjourned till this afternoon at 3½ o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday afternoon, 3½ o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Committee of Commissions reported an additional Commissioner—viz. Michael S. Baer, a ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Baltimore, who was enrolled.

On motion, the order of the day was postponed, and the Assembly resumed the unfinished business of this morning—viz. the appeal of W. J. Frazer

against the Synod of Illinois. The original parties were further and fully heard.

And then the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock. Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday morning, May 26th, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

On motion, the roll was called.

The minutes of the last two sessions were read and approved.

A communication was received from the General Conference of Maine, inviting a correspondence with this Assembly, which was referred to Messrs. McPheeters, Doolittle, and Sterret.

The Judicial Committee reported, in order, Judicial Business No. 3—viz. the complaint of Samuel Lowrie with regard to a decision of the Synod of Illinois, refusing to sustain his complaint against the Presbytery of Peoria for recognizing a second church in the town of Peoria. Which was put on the docket.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 7—viz. a petition from certain ministers and elders in the State of Michigan. Which was put on the docket.

The committee to whom was referred the communication of Dr. John McDowell, resigning the office of Stated Clerk of the General Assembly, made a report, which is as follows, viz.:

“That, although the reason assigned by Dr. McDowell for his resignation is quite sufficient, yet as he has long and faithfully performed the duties of the office, and is well acquainted with all the routine of business belonging to said office, he be requested to withdraw his resignation; provided he can do so consistently with the paramount duties of a pastor.”

Which was unanimously adopted.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave to Mr. Holden to be absent from the remaining sessions of the Assembly after to-day.

The committee to whom was referred the special report of the Board of Trustees on the limit of their powers made a report, which was put on the docket.

The unfinished business of yesterday was resumed—viz. the appeal of W. J. Frazer against the Synod of Illinois. The Synod were heard in explanation of their decision, until

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day, when the annual report of the Board of Foreign Missions was presented and read by their Corresponding Secretary. Addresses were made, and the report was committed to Messrs. McGill, MacMaster, and Whitner.

And then the Assembly adjourned until this afternoon at 3½ o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday afternoon, 3½ o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The reception of reports on Synodical records was made the order of the day for Thursday morning at 9 o'clock.

The election to fill vacancies in the Board of Foreign Missions was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Overture No. 5 was taken up and referred to Messrs. Hamilton, Spencer, and Latta.

The unfinished business of this morning was resumed—viz. the appeal of W. J. Frazer against the Synod of Illinois. The Synod were further and fully heard. The roll was called, that each member of the Assembly might have an opportunity of expressing his opinion, until

The Assembly adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday morning, May 27th, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day—viz. the election to fill vacancies in the Board of Foreign Missions. The ballots were committed to Messrs. Cowan and Yantis.

The annual report of the Directors of the Theological Seminary at Princeton was presented, read, and referred to Messrs. W. S. White, Bosworth, and Baer.

The annual report of the Trustees of the Theological Seminary at Princeton was presented, read, and accepted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix ; and it was

Resolved, That the Trustees of the Theological Seminary at Princeton be authorized to draw from the Trustees of the General Assembly the sum necessary to pay the professors' salaries, provided there be sufficient available funds in the Treasury.

The committee to whom was referred the letter of the General Conference of Maine on the subject of *ecclesiastical correspondence* made the following report, which was adopted, viz. :

Although the subject referred to the committee has respect *only to one* ecclesiastical body, yet your committee are of opinion that the action of the Assembly in the premises, whatever that action may be, will naturally involve principles bearing on every similar case.

While, therefore, your committee are of opinion that there is no ecclesiastical body in the land with which the Assembly could more profitably and cordially correspond and fraternize than with the General Conference of Maine, yet as the whole question which relates to *correspondence* with other churches at home and abroad is one, in some aspects of it at least, of much interest, and concerning which there exists considerable diversity of opinion ;

Your committee respectfully recommend that the communication from the General Conference of Maine be laid on the table, subject to the call of any member of the House, and with the understanding that when called up the *whole subject* of ecclesiastical correspondence will, on motion, be open for discussion and for the action of the Assembly.

(Signed)

WM. MCPHEETERS, *Chairman.*

The Committee of Correspondence reported a letter to the United Associate Synod of the Secession Church of Scotland ; which was read, adopted, and ordered to be signed by the Moderator and Permanent Clerk and transmitted by the Stated Clerk.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day, when the annual report of the Board of Missions was presented and read by their Corresponding Secretary. Addresses were made, and the report was committed to Messrs. Rowland, R. Dunlap, and Hart.

The committee to count the ballots for persons to fill vacancies in the Board of Foreign Missions reported ; when it appeared that the following are elected for four years, viz. :

MINISTERS.

George Junkin, D. D.,
 Thomas L. Janeway,
 George W. Janvier,
 John Johnston,
 Joseph H. Jones,
 John M. Krebs,
 Aaron W. Leland, D. D.,
 John McDowell, D. D.,
 Joseph McElroy, D. D.,
 William McPheters, D. D.,
 Samuel Miller, D. D.,
 Nicholas Murray,
 George W. Musgrave,
 William W. Phillips, D. D.,
 J. J. Janeway, D. D.

LAYMEN.

D. C. Campbell,
 John Henderson,
 Joseph H. Lumpkin,
 William McIlvain,
 William McDonald,
 Benjamin McDowell,
 Thomas McKeen,
 George Morris,
 John Murphy,
 Matthew Newkirk,
 Frederiek Nash,
 Eugenius A. Nesbit,
 Peter Sken Smith,
 C. K. Stribling,
 Joseph Patterson.

And then the Assembly adjourned until this afternoon at 3½ o'clock.
 Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday afternoon, 3½ o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Assembly engaged in the devotional exercises appointed for this afternoon in the order prescribed, with the exception that an additional address was made, upon invitation from the Assembly, by the Rev. John D. Lang, D. D., senior member of the Presbyterian church in Sydney, New South Wales, After which,

The Committee of Correspondence reported a letter to the Synod of Ulster, which was read, adopted, and ordered to be signed by the Moderator and Permanent Clerk, and transmitted by the Stated Clerk; and

It was *Resolved*, That one copy of the volume entitled *The Presbyterian Church Case* be transmitted to the Synod of Ulster, and one copy to the United Associate Synod of the Secession Church of Scotland.

The Committee on Psalmody made a report, which was accepted, and the committee was continued. It was ordered that the report be printed in the Appendix.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures reported Overtures Nos. 8 and 9, viz.:

No. 8. Memorial from the Presbytery of Louisville and Salem, requesting the appointment of a co-ordinate executive committee of the Board of Missions to be located at Louisville, Kentucky.

No. 9. On the subject of deacons;

Which were put on the docket.

And then the Assembly took a recess till this evening at 8 o'clock.

Wednesday evening, 8 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and resumed the unfinished business of yesterday—viz.: The appeal of W. J. Frazer against the Synod of Illinois. The roll was called further, until

The Assembly adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday morning, May 28, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of yesterday's session were read and approved.

On motion, the order of the day was postponed, and the unfinished business of yesterday was resumed—viz. the appeal of W. J. Frazer against the Synod of Illinois. The roll was called further, until

The Assembly proceeded to the second order of the day, when the annual report of the Board of Education was presented and read by their Corresponding Secretary. Addresses were made, and the Assembly united in prayer to the "Lord of the harvest" that he would send forth laborers into the harvest; and the report was referred to Messrs. Spring, Janeway, and Thompson.

The committees on the records of the Synods of New Jersey, Cincinnati, Alabama, New York, Albany, Philadelphia, Virginia, Mississippi, and North Carolina severally reported, and the records were approved.

The committee on Overture No. 5 made a report, which was read, and

The Assembly adjourned till this afternoon at 3½ o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday afternoon, 3½ o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Committee on Commissions reported an additional Commissioner—viz. John Fine, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Ogdensburg; who was enrolled.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Missouri reported that there had been no meeting of the Synod since the records were approved. The report was accepted, and the committee was discharged.

The nominating of persons to fill vacancies in the Boards of Directors of the Princeton Theological Seminary and of the Western Theological Seminary, and in the Boards of Missions, Education, and Publication, was made the order of the day for to-morrow afternoon at 4 o'clock; and the election was made the order of the day for Saturday morning at ten o'clock.

A special report of the Trustees of the General Assembly on the state of the funds was presented, read, and referred to Messrs. Fine, Hepburn, Thomas, Rice, and McPheeters.

A special report from the Treasurer of the Trustees of the General Assembly, specifying the receipts and expenditures on account of the lawsuit in answer to a call of this House, was presented, read, and referred to Messrs. McLean, Heberton, and King, together with the Treasurer.

The unfinished business of this morning was taken up—viz. the appeal of W. J. Frazer against the Synod of Illinois. The roll was further and fully called; and the vote was then taken, and the yeas and nays recorded, as follows, viz.:

TO SUSTAIN THE APPEAL.—Messrs. T. Savage, J. A. Savage, Donald, Morrison, A. Scovell, Bull, Patterson, Roscoe, King, S. B. Lee, Auchincloss, Cory, Littell, Richmond, McLean, Irwin, Printz, Coburn, Lewis, James Scott, Long, Boardman, Van Artsdalen, Heberton, Ewing, Grier, A. Crawford, Latta, Cross, Baer, McDonald, Marr, Graham, R. M. White, A. D. Campbell, Marshall, Kiddoo, Core, J. D. Scott, Kerr, Hanna, Williams, Nesbit, M'Cready, Francis, Price, Gill, Bailey, Rowland, Low, Belville, J. L. Wilson, Weaver, McGookin, W. C. Anderson, Holliday, Monfort, Williamson, Cowan. McElvaine, W. G. Campbell, Francisco, Bosworth, McKenzie, Hart, Montgomery, McPheeters, Caldwell, C. W. Harris, Wyly, Helm, Harrison, Leath, Cater, Brearly, P. S. Smith, Safford, Thomas, Hamilton.

AGAINST SUSTAINING THE APPEAL.—Messrs. R. Smith, Silliman, Mead, Prime, H. N. Wilson, Steele, Marsh, Redington, Collins, Hepburn, Sterrett, McCord, Boyd, Cunningham, Quillin, Porter, Leech, Lowrie, Comingo, Nevin,

McKee, D. Lee, Yantis, Joseph Anderson, S. Scovel, Bergen, W. D. Jones, Robertson, Forsythe, Todd, Brown, S. Crawford, McCorkle, W. N. Scott, W. S. White, Matthews, B. C. Jones, McNeil, McJunkin, Bradshaw, Stanton.

NON LIQUET.—Messrs. Sterling, Spring, Janeway, Rice, Mitchell, Denny, Feemster.

And, on motion, Messrs. Spring, Belville, A. D. Campbell, Prime, and P. S. Smith were appointed a committee to form a minute on the case.

The committee to whom was referred the report of the Board of Directors at Princeton made a report recommending the adoption of the resolutions recommended by the Board and contained in their annual report; when it was unanimously resolved by the Assembly,

That Dr. Hodge be made professor of Exegetical and Didactic Theology; and that the title of Dr. Alexander hereafter be, Professor of Pastoral and Polemic Theology; and that the plan of the Seminary be amended as follows:

Sect. 1. Art. 3. That all after the words "three professors" be struck out.

Sect. 7. Art. 3. That the word "class" be inserted instead of "professor," and that the section end with the word "day;" so as to read thus: "Every class shall, if practicable, have at least one lecture or recitation every day."

Sect. 9. Art. 3. That the former part of the section be amended so as to read as follows: "The professors of the institution shall be considered as a Faculty. They shall meet at such seasons as they may judge proper. In every meeting, the senior professor present shall preside. The Faculty, etc." The rest of the section as it was before this amendment.

Sect. 4. Art. 6. That this section be amended so as to read as follows, viz. "Every student shall be obliged to write on such theological and other subjects as may be prescribed to him by the professors once a month, and shall also commit to memory a piece of his own composition, and pronounce it in public before the professors and students." And that

Sect. 10. Art. 6, be amended so as to read as follows: "Sect. 10. The exercises of the Seminary shall be suspended during fourteen weeks in every year; the number of vacations and the times at which they shall begin and end to be determined by the Board of Directors."

And then the Assembly adjourned till to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday morning, May 29, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The committee to prepare the minute in the case of the appeal of William J. Frazer from a decision of the Synod of Illinois suspending him from the gospel ministry, made the following report, which was adopted, viz.:

While the Assembly cannot refrain from expressing their deep concern at the spirit which has been exhibited, in the progress of this appeal, both by the prosecutor and the appellant in the matters complained of, which appears to have been far from that discretion and high-minded Christian deportment which are honorable to the ministerial character; yet, in the judgment of this Assembly, the appeal is sustained, both on the ground of irregularity in the courts below and for the want of sufficient testimony. The Assembly do moreover affectionately and solemnly enjoin it upon the prosecutor and the appellant, and all the parties concerned, to cultivate a spirit of brotherly love; to seek to heal the wounds this unhappy controversy has inflicted, and to unite their efforts and prayers for the extension and power of vital godliness in the destitute regions where the Lord of the harvest has called them to labor.

On motion, *Resolved*, That this General Assembly order two copies of the *Minutes* of the Assembly for every year since 1835, and of each of the Boards

of the General Assembly, and one copy of *The Presbyterian Church Case*, to be transmitted to the Presbyterian Church in the colony of Australia by the hands of the Rev. Dr. Lang, senior minister of Sydney.

The report of the committee on Overture No. 5 was taken up and considered, till

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day; when the annual report of the Board of Publication was presented and read by their Corresponding Secretary. Addresses were made, and the report was referred to Messrs. W. S. White, Williams, and H. N. Wilson.

The Committee of Foreign Correspondence reported a letter to the Congregational Union of England and Wales, which was read, and ordered to be signed by the Moderator and Permanent Clerk and transmitted by the Stated Clerk.

Resolved, That a copy of *The Presbyterian Church Case* be transmitted to the Congregational Union of England and Wales.

The committee on the records of the Synod of South Carolina reported. The report was considered, until

The Assembly adjourned until this afternoon at 3½ o'clock.

Friday afternoon, 3½ o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

Messrs. Core, J. A. Dunlap, Safford, and Whitner were appointed a committee to make a report on the desecration of the Sabbath.

The order of the day was taken up, and nominations were made for Directors of the Princeton Theological Seminary and of the Western Theological Seminary; also for the Board of Missions, of Education, and of Publication.

On motion, it was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning, at 9½ o'clock, to consider the subject of electing a professor of Biblical Criticism and Oriental Literature in the Western Theological Seminary.

The unfinished business of this morning was taken up—viz. the report of the committee on the records of the Synod of South Carolina and Georgia, which was further considered and adopted, and the records were approved.

The Committee on Mileage reported that there had been paid into the Commissioners' Fund the sum of six hundred and ninety-three dollars and sixty-one cents; that the number of miles travelled as reported to them is twenty-eight thousand and eighty-two miles, which at two cents and seven mills per mile will amount to six hundred and eighty-four dollars and fifty-three cents, leaving a balance in the Treasury of nine dollars and eight cents; for which sum the committee recommend that the Trustees of the General Assembly be directed to draw an order on their Treasurer.

The report was adopted.

Resolved, That Messrs. J. L. Wilson, Low, Williams, Mitchell, and Auchincloss be appointed a committee to inquire into the expenses of the several Boards, and to ascertain—1. Whether the agency system can be dispensed with or improved. 2. Whether the expenses of the Boards can be advantageously reduced.

The report of the committee on Overture No. 5 was resumed and adopted as follows, viz.:

The committee to whom was referred the memorial from certain ministers and elders belonging to the Synod of Missouri, and also the memorial from the Presbytery of St. Charles, in relation to the difficulties which have occurred to prevent the regular organization of the Synod of Missouri at St. Charles, as directed by the Assembly of 1839, beg leave to report that—

Inasmuch as it appears that since the adjournment of the Synod of Missouri in October, 1835, at Marion College, to meet again at Apple Creek

church, Cape Girardeau county, in October, 1836, no constitutional quorum had come together on any one occasion, at the time and place to which the members who met from year to year had adjourned, the Assembly of 1839 (see *Minutes*, p. 92) did, at the request of certain members of said Synod, met in convention at St. Louis in October, 1838, direct said Synod to meet at St. Charles on the second Thursday of September, 1839, then and there to organize for the transaction of business; and in case a constitutional quorum should not be present, then those actually present were to organize as a convention, draw up a full and faithful statement of the whole circumstances, and present such statement and themselves at Springfield, in Illinois, on the third Thursday of October, 1839, at the meeting of the Synod of Illinois, which from and after such union was to be called the Synod of Illinois and Missouri; but it now appears from the statement of the memorialists that from sundry causes neither was the Synod of Missouri organized, nor did the ministers and elders present and organized as a convention join themselves to the Synod of Illinois, as directed; therefore

Resolved, That the Synod of Missouri be, and the same is hereby, directed to meet in the Second Presbyterian Church in the city of St. Louis, on the second Thursday in October, 1840, at twelve o'clock M.; that its sessions be opened with a sermon by the oldest minister present; and that, from and after that time, all the churches, ministers, minorities of Presbyteries, and Presbyteries within the bounds of the former Synod of Missouri, so far as they adhere to the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, as directed by the General Assembly of 1838 (see *Minutes*, pp. 34, 35), shall be united with and received under the care of the Synod of Missouri, to be then and there organized. But if a constitutional quorum shall fail to be present at that time and place, then as many as are present shall be required to meet and adjourn from time to time, until a quorum shall have been obtained; and in case of a total failure to organize a Synod, they shall report their doings to the next General Assembly, that such final disposition may be made of the case as to that Assembly may seem good.

WM. T. HAMILTON, *Chairman*.

The committee to whom was referred the annual report of the Board of Foreign Missions reported as follows, which was adopted, viz.:

1. *Resolved*, That the General Assembly acknowledge with joy and with devout gratitude to God the smiles of his favor on this great cause; and that there is great occasion for thankfulness in view of the many effectual doors thrown open to the foreign missionary efforts of the Church.

2. *Resolved*, That we notice with deep interest the condition of schools among the heathen, and the increasing devotedness of missionaries in this arduous department of labor, and that we do earnestly recommend to the Church to make these schools, more than ever, the special object of prayer and liberal contribution.

3. *Resolved*, That the Assembly revolt with anguish from every part of the melancholy alternative which the want of funds will force upon us if not speedily remedied, and that we all respond to the Board, "*We cannot give up any part of the field described in the report.*"

4. *Resolved*, That the loud call to the churches for help cannot be disregarded by any without criminal apathy toward the perishing heathen.

5. *Resolved*, That no financial embarrassment of the country should be suffered to discourage pastors and agents from cogently presenting this cause to the people; for the Spirit of God has graciously added to the Church, within this season of unparalleled derangement in the country, a multitude of such as we hope shall be saved, and of course a multitude of willing hearts

and hands to supply, and more than supply, with their abundant mites the lack of fortunes which have been broken or diminished.

6. *Resolved*, That it be recommended to every pastor and Session to circulate the *Missionary Chronicle* diligently among the people, and to make every member of the Church feel, by direct and personal appeals, that it is a duty and a privilege to help this cause; and that the Assembly address a circular letter to all the churches under our care, affectionately inviting and urging them to entertain deeper sympathies, to offer more ardent and unceasing prayers, to make immediate, regular, and vigorous efforts to collect funds for this object, and that it be read from the pulpit of every church at a suitable time.

Messrs. McGill, W. C. Anderson, and Whitner were appointed the committee provided for by the sixth resolution of the foregoing series.

On motion of Mr. Comingo,

Resolved, That the members of this Assembly become voluntary agents during the ensuing year, as far as practicable, for the diffusion of missionary intelligence and for the promotion of the missionary cause within the bounds of their respective Presbyteries.

On motion of Dr. Janeway,

Resolved, That the General Assembly recommend to all the churches under their care to observe the *first Sabbath in January* next with special reference to the conversion of the world, and on that day to offer up fervent and united prayers for the blessing of God on the operations of our several Boards, that they may subserve the great ends for which they have been appointed, the diffusion of the light and truth of the gospel at home and abroad; that our whole Church, in its organized form, may become what she ought to be, a missionary Church; and that all other churches of other denominations may become animated with a true missionary spirit and do their part in accomplishing the great work to which the Head of the Church is now summoning all his people, the work of enlightening, reforming, and converting the world, that he may reign over all nations in the fullness of his grace and glory; and that it be recommended to all the churches to take up on that day collections for the Board of Foreign Missions.

The committee to whom was referred the annual report of the Board of Education reported; and, on their motion, the report was adopted and referred to the Board for publication.

Dr. Spring offered the following resolution, which was adopted, viz.:

As the American Bible Society has had from its commencement and still retains unabated the confidence of this body,

Resolved, That the ministers and churches of our connection be requested to co-operate efficiently with said institution in supplying, within their respective States and counties, destitute families, emigrants, Sabbath and common schools with the Holy Scriptures, and also in furnishing means to prepare and circulate the same sacred volume in foreign countries, where, in the providence of God, the way is now extensively prepared to receive it.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Tennessee reported; and the records were approved, and it was

Resolved, That, inasmuch as it is the desire and request of the Synod of Tennessee to be permitted to retain their original style, their request be granted; and that the name of the Synod be, and it is hereby, changed; and that the said Synod hereafter shall be recognized and known by the name and style of the Synod of West Tennessee.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Illinois reported, and the records were approved, with the exceptions, 1st, on page 26, of the following minute, viz.: "Rev. Messrs. James H. Dickey, Dewey, Whitney, and W.

Comstock, ministers of the Church of Jesus Christ, being present, were invited to sit as corresponding members," the bodies to which these ministers respectively belong not being mentioned; and, 2d, of the proceedings of Synod in the case of W. J. Frazer.

The committee to whom was referred the communication from the Presbytery of Newburyport, made a report which was adopted, as follows, viz.:

Whereas, the last General Assembly adopted a resolution directing the Presbytery of Newburyport "to take such order as shall, on the plan adopted by the Assembly of 1838, secure a continued and indubitable connection with the Presbyterian Church in the United States;" *and whereas*, the Presbytery have, by their communication to this Assembly, declared that they are not prepared to comply with this direction; therefore

Resolved, That the Presbytery of Newburyport, having thus virtually separated from us, are not any longer recognized as a constituent part of the Presbyterian Church of the United States of America, and that the Synod of Albany be directed to remove their name from its roll.

The committee to whom was referred the annual report of the Board of Missions made a report, which was adopted, as follows, viz.:

1. *Resolved*, That the Assembly, having heard from the report of their Board of Missions of the continued and increasing prosperity of the cause of domestic missions in the Presbyterian Church, would record their grateful acknowledgments to the Head of the Church for these signs and tokens of his favor.

2. *Resolved*, That whereas the present position of our country and the exigencies of the Church demand greatly increased efforts in the cause of domestic missions; and whereas, from the report of the Board, it appears they have already made large engagements and contemplate much more extended plans of operations to meet, as far as practicable, the pressing demand from all portions of our land, and especially from the West, the South, and the South-west, including also Texas; and whereas, to carry forward these extended operations will require the united and cordial co-operation of the churches, the General Assembly do most earnestly urge the claims of this Board on all their ministers and churches.

3. *Resolved*, To secure the attention of ministers and churches to this important object the Assembly renew the recommendation of the last Assembly, that inasmuch as the report when published, although sent to every minister, cannot be generally circulated among the members of the churches, it be recommended to the pastors of churches to spread before their people the substance of this report, by reading it or portions of it from their pulpits at such time as may be convenient for taking up an annual collection on behalf of this cause.

4. *Resolved*, That the agents employed by the Board be recommended to the confidence and cordial co-operation of the pastors and churches; and in portions of the Church in which the Board may have no agent the Assembly would earnestly recommend the individual agency of every minister and Session in forwarding the interests of the cause.

5. *Resolved*, That the Assembly have heard with deep interest of the number of itinerant missionaries now in the employment of the Board, and of the good success which has attended their labors; and while they would enjoin on the Board to continue, as heretofore, to aid feeble churches in the support of pastors, they would at the same time renew the expression of their deep conviction of the great importance of itinerant missionary labors among the more destitute districts and the newly-settled portions of our country, and would urge on the Board and on all our ministers and churches, in the lan-

guage of the report, to unite their prayers, their influence, and their efforts to fill all the dark places of our land with the light of God's salvation.

6. *Resolved*, That the Board be authorized to apply to the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania for such an incorporation as the laws of Pennsylvania have given them power to grant.

A communication was received from the Rev. Dr. John McDowell, repeating the tender of his resignation of the office of Stated Clerk. It was

Resolved, That the resignation be accepted, and that the thanks of the Assembly be given to Dr. McDowell for the able and faithful manner in which he has discharged the duties of the office of Stated Clerk.

The Rev. William M. Engles, D. D., was then elected Stated Clerk of the General Assembly.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave to Messrs. Mead, Spencer, Long, MacMaster, Marsh, Nesbit.

And then the Assembly adjourned till to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday morning, May 30, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last two sessions were read and approved.

The committee on the special report of the Trustees of the General Assembly in relation to the funds made a report, which was considered till the Assembly proceeded to the order of the day; when it was

Resolved, That the Assembly will proceed on Monday afternoon at 3½ o'clock to elect a professor of Biblical Criticism and Oriental Literature in the Western Theological Seminary. The Assembly united in prayer for the divine direction in making this appointment.

The Assembly proceeded to the second order of the day—viz. the elections for Directors of the Princeton Theological Seminary, the ballots for which were committed to Messrs. A. D. Campbell and Grier; for Directors of the Western Theological Seminary, the ballots for which were committed to Messrs. Comingo and Irwin; for the Board of Publication, the ballots for which were committed to Messrs. Comingo and Irwin; for the Board of Missions, the ballots for which were committed to Messrs. A. D. Campbell and Grier; and for the Board of Education, the ballots for which were committed to Messrs. Comingo and Irwin.

The committees to count the ballots respectively reported; when it appeared that the following persons were elected to fill vacancies, viz.:

In the Board of Directors of the Princeton Theological Seminary, for three years, viz.:

MINISTERS.

G. Spring, D. D.,
W. A. McDowell, D. D.,
W. Neill, D. D.,
Wm. Latta,
Wm. D. Snodgrass, D. D.,
Jos. McElroy, D. D.,
G. W. Musgrave.

ELDERS.

John T. Woodhull,
H. Auchincloss,
A. W. Mitchell.

And for two years, in the room of Samuel Bayard, deceased, Lewis R. Phillips.

In the Board of Directors of the Western Theological Seminary, for three years, viz.:

MINISTERS.

Saml. Tate,
D. McConaughy, D. D.,
A. O. Patterson,
R. Dunlap,
A. D. Campbell,
N. H. Gillet,
Jas. Culbertson.

ELDERS.

A. Laughlin,
Francis G. Bailey,
Thos. Kiddoo.

In the Board of Publication, for four years, viz. :

MINISTERS.

James Culbertson,
John L. R. Davies,
Wm. M. Engles, D. D.,
D. Elliott, D. D.,
John T. Edgar, D. D.,
John Gray,
A. Green, D. D.,
Jas. Hoge, D. D.,
Jos. H. Jones,
John M. Krebs.

LAYMEN.

T. Henderson,
Robt. Jaffray,
J. Johnson,
V. King,
J. Lenox,
H. H. Leavitt,
T. McKeen,
A. W. Mitchell,
J. B. Mitchell,
Geo. Morris.

In the Board of Missions, for four years, viz. :

MINISTERS.

A. Green, D. D.,
A. Alexander, D. D.,
G. Spring, D. D.,
W. W. Phillips, D. D.,
Alex. T. McGill,
Willis Lord,
Elias W. Crane,
John Johnston,
Geo. W. Musgrave,
Thos. Hoge.

LAYMEN.

Ananias Platt,
Moses Allen,
Joseph Patterson,
G. T. Snowden,
A. Symington,
P. Sken Smith.

In the Board of Education, for four years, viz. :

MINISTERS.

Henry R. Weed, D. D.,
John Breckinridge, D. D.,
Samuel G. Winchester,
Joseph McElroy, D. D.,
John Matthews, D. D.,
George W. Musgrave,
A. Green, D. D.,
Robert Steel.

LAYMEN.

John McMullin,
Henry Potter,
A. Symington,
Solomon Allen,
G. T. Snowden,
Thomas Henderson,
Samuel Hepburn,
J. F. Wallis,
G. E. Thomas.

A communication was received from a "Convention of Reformed churches held at Allegheny, May 25, 1840, for the purpose of devising measures for the promotion of the unity of the Church of God, upon scriptural principles," and inviting the General Assembly to send delegates to the next

meeting of the convention, which is to be held at Philadelphia on the fourth Thursday of May, 1841 ;

Which was laid on the table.

The committee to whom was referred Overture No. 4—viz. the memorial from the Session of Apple Creek church—reported, recommending that the memorial be referred to the Synod of Missouri, with instructions that they take such measures in relation to it as shall be calculated in their judgment to secure the peace and good order of the church of Apple Creek.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Indiana reported ; and the records were approved.

The unfinished business was resumed—viz. the report of the committee on the special report of the Trustees in relation to the funds, which was amended, and adopted as follows, viz. :

The committee to whom was referred the report of the Trustees of the General Assembly under date of May 27, 1840, respectfully report :

They regret that any part of the principal of the funds committed by the friends of the Church to the Assembly to be kept permanently entire should have been used, previous to 1833, for the current expenses of the Boards of the Assembly and its Seminary, when by the express terms of the donations the interest only could be rightfully used. The report states that the part of the principal thus expended was loaned, but does not state the amount thus loaned, nor that it was repaid nor in any way secured.

The committee submit that the Assembly is bound in law and in morals to supply the deficiency of the principal of the funds at the earliest practicable period.

The committee also regret that any previous Assembly should have approved of the funds of the Church being invested in the stocks of distant banks, with the expectation of receiving a larger income than 6 per cent. interest. The report states that for one or more years this expectation was realized, and the revenue was uncommonly large.

But the committee fear that some portion of these investments is now in extreme hazard. It is plain that the Assembly would not, at the present time, recommend a further investment of the Church funds in the stocks of South-western banks. Is it not worthy of the consideration of the Trustees whether it be not the part of wisdom to sell the stocks of the unproductive banks as soon as it may be judiciously done, and invest the proceeds in securities which are less fluctuating and less hazardous ?

The principal object of the reference of the report to this committee appears to be to procure an expression of their opinion as to the best manner of meeting the present deficiency. The committee, after as much consultation as their time and opportunities would allow, respectfully suggest, inasmuch as the principal of the missionary and education funds have not been kept separate, but have been mixed with the other funds of the Church, and the average of the interest on the whole does not exceed 5 per cent., that, if necessary, the appropriations to the Missionary Board be reduced to \$1000, and to the scholarship and students' departments to \$3217. A deficiency of \$3900 will be still left to be provided for.

The committee recommend that the Assembly appoint a committee of five persons to procure the sum of \$5000, if possible, in such a manner as they shall judge best, by the appointment of an agent or otherwise ; and if the above deficiency of \$3000* be not raised, that a further reduction be made, *pro rata*, in all the appropriations mentioned in the report of the Trustees.

JOHN FINE, *Chairman*.

May 29, 1840.

* Thus printed in original Minutes—probably a misprint for \$3900.

Messrs. John M'Dowell, Henry A. Boardman, Matthew Newkirk, Alex. W. Mitchell and James N. Dickson were appointed the aforesaid committee.

The committee to whom was referred the report of the Board of Publication made a report, which was adopted, as follows, viz.:

1. *Resolved*, That the report of the Assembly's Board of Publication be approved, and referred to the Board for publication at their discretion.

2. *Resolved*, That the number of members of the Board be increased to one hundred and four.

3. *Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Presbyteries to take such order as to them may seem best adapted to secure the establishment of depositories and the circulation of the publications of this Board through their bounds.

4. *Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Board to have its claims brought before all the churches which have not heretofore contributed to its funds, and that the distribution of their publications in foreign lands be presented as an important ground of their application for aid.

5. *Resolved*, That the general agent of the Board of Publication be *ex-officio* a member of the Executive Committee.

The election of additional members of the Board of Publication was made the order of the day for Monday morning at 9½ o'clock.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave to Messrs. Janeway, Van Artsdalen, Ewing, Bosworth, Scott.

Judicial Business No. 3—viz. the complaint of Samuel Lowry—was taken up. The decision complained of was read; the complainant's reasons were read; and the records of the Synod in the case were read.

And then the Assembly adjourned until this afternoon at 3½ o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday afternoon, 3½ o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The report of the committee to whom was referred the special report of the Trustees of the General Assembly in relation to the limitation of their powers, was taken up and adopted as follows, viz.:

Resolved, That the Board of Foreign Missions be authorized to apply for an act of incorporation to the proper authorities of the State of New York; and the said Board shall specify the number of Trustees, the mode of their election, their duties, and their time of service.

That in case an act of incorporation aforesaid cannot be obtained, then the Trustees designated and chosen as the Board may direct shall act in the premises, under such direction and instruction as they may receive from time to time from the Board; and all property, houses, lands, tenements, and permanent funds belonging to the said Board shall be held by said Trustees in trust for the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

Resolved, That the Board of Education and the Board of Missions be authorized to take such measures as to them may be deemed best for the purpose of procuring an act of incorporation in accordance with the provisions of the laws of the State of Pennsylvania, and that these Boards also be authorized to appoint the individuals who shall constitute these respective trusts, and also specify the duties to be by them performed.

The committee appointed by the last General Assembly "to inquire whether any, and if any, what further measures ought to be adopted for securing to the children and young people of our Church more full advantages of Christian education than they have hitherto enjoyed," presented a report, which was accepted and referred to the Board of Publication to be published.

Overture No. 8 was made the order of the day for Monday next at ten o'clock.

The unfinished business of this morning was taken up—viz. the complaint of Samuel Lowry against the Synod of Illinois. The complainant and the Synod were heard, and the matter was referred to Messrs. J. L. Wilson, R. Smith, Fine, Yantis and Lowrie, who were instructed to bring in a minute expressive of the judgment of the Assembly on the case.

Resolved, That the compensation of the Permanent Clerk of the General Assembly be increased to five dollars per diem.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave to Messrs. Gill, Auchincloss, Thomas, T. Savage, Baer, J. A. Dunlap, Fine, Hepburn, Thompson, Stafford, Silliman.

The committee to whom was referred the special report from the Treasurer of the General Assembly respecting the lawsuit made a report, which was considered, until

The Assembly adjourned until Monday morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday morning, June 1, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The committee to whom was referred Overture No. 3, in relation to difficulties in the church of St. Charles, made a report of a minute, which was adopted as follows, viz. :

Resolved, That this Assembly understand the act of the Assembly of 1838 as sustaining the appeal of Rev. Hiram Chamberlain, not upon the merits of the case, but on account of informality of the courts below, and that in "the entire setting aside of all the proceedings in the whole case" they intended not only to annul the past, but also to forbid all subsequent action contrary to the will of the regularly constituted authorities of that church; and they hereby declare any such unconstitutional action that may have been had by any person or persons in connection with that church to be null and void.

The committee to whom was referred the complaint of Samuel Lowry against the Synod of Illinois made the following report of a minute as expressive of their judgment in the case, which was adopted, viz. :

The Assembly after hearing the documents and the parties in the case of the complaint of Mr. Samuel Lowry against the decision of the Synod of Illinois, by which they affirmed the decision of the Presbytery of Peoria, establishing a second Presbyterian church in the town of Peoria, do judge that the complaint of Mr. Samuel Lowry be, and it is hereby, sustained *pro forma*, it having been regularly conducted, and there appearing just grounds of complaint on account of irregularity, and also on the ground of allegations made against Mr. Lowry, some of which have been disproved, and others not sustained by evidence. But it is not intended by this manner of sustaining the complaint to reverse the decision of the Synod, inasmuch as the Assembly believes the better way of redressing the evils which have arisen there is not to dissolve the said Second church, but to adopt some mode of pacification, and prevent, if possible, the recurrence of similar disorders.

The Assembly therefore fix the seal of their disapprobation upon the following irregularities, viz. :

1st. The conduct of the Rev. Mr. Kellar in dividing the church in Peoria, by which he did not make a separation from the great body of the Presbyterian Church, but a schism in the body, contrary to the word of God and the government of the Church, which allow of the division of the Church universal into separate congregations only when the people of God are too numerous or too remote from each other to assemble in one place to worship God.

This procedure of Mr. Kellar was the more culpable as the party he organized into a church endeavored to assume the name and take the place of the regular church in Peoria.

2d. The Presbytery of Peoria are censurable for not calling Mr. Kellar to order when he disregarded their advice to desist from preaching in the town of Peoria.

3d. The Synod of Illinois have not discharged their duty. They ought to have spread upon their record everything which influenced their judgment in the case, and also to have sent to this Assembly authentic copies of the whole proceedings, with all the documents which had been regularly before them. They also seem to have overlooked the irregularity of the Presbytery in dividing a congregation when there was no request from the people on the subject.

It is manifestly lawful, but deemed by the Assembly inexpedient, to dissolve the Second church in Peoria; but in order to bring matters back to a state of order and harmony the General Assembly hereby direct the Synod of Illinois, at its first meeting, to appoint a committee, composed of men known to be of sound judgment and pacific in their characters, and not obnoxious to either of the churches now established in that town, to visit said churches as soon as practicable, and use their best endeavors to bring them together in one harmonious body, that they may be able to select and support a pastor, and not, as separate and feeble sections of the same body, remain a reproach among their adversaries. In the mean time, the Assembly enjoin it upon the members and the officers of said churches to exercise mutual forbearance and Christian kindness, that they may be prepared to profit from a visit by the committee of Synod.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day—viz. the election for additional members of the Board of Publication. The ballots were committed to Messrs. Printz and H. N. Wilson.

The committee on the desecration of the Sabbath made a report which was considered and referred to the Committee on the Narrative.

The committee to count the ballots for additional members of the Board of Publication reported; when it appeared that the following persons were elected, viz.:

MINISTERS.

For One Year.

John C. Baekus,
John Breckinridge, D. D.,
Jas. L. Dinwiddie.

For Two Years.

Wm. T. Hamilton,
Alex. Maeklin,
John McDowell, D. D.

For Three Years.

Wm. S. Plumer, D. D.,
Reuben Smith,
Wm. D. Snodgrass, D. D.

For Four Years.

Gard. Spring, D. D.,
Archd. Tudehope,
John W. Yeomans.

LAYMEN.

Charles Collins,
James N. Dickson,
William Dulty.

Wm. R. Hanson,
John Hemphill,
Alex. Henry.

Paul T. Jones,
Wm. S. Martien,
Henry M'Keen.

Archd. McIntyre, Jr.,
Archd. Robertson,
Adrian Van Sinderen.

Judicial Business No. 4 was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

The second order of the day was taken up—viz. Overture No. 8—the memorials from the Presbyteries of Louisville and Salem, requesting the appointment of a co-ordinate Executive Committee of Missions, to be located at Louisville. The overture was read, and it was moved that the request be granted. And after debate,

The Assembly adjourned till this afternoon at 3½ o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday afternoon, 3½ o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last three sessions were read and approved.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day—viz. the election of a professor of Biblical Criticism and Oriental Literature in the Western Theological Seminary. The ballots were committed to Messrs. Redington and Harrison, and upon the report of the committee it appeared that the Rev. Lewis W. Green was unanimously elected.

Messrs. A. D. Campbell and Comingo were appointed a committee to inform Mr. Green of his election.

The unfinished business of this morning was resumed—viz. the motion upon Overture No. 8. And after debate the previous question was demanded, and the yeas and nays were recorded as follows, viz.:

YEAS.—Messrs. Yantis, S. Scovel, Robertson.—3.

NAYS.—Messrs. J. A. Savage, R. Smith, Donald, Morrison, Doolittle, Bull, Prime, Sterling, Patterson, Roscoe, H. N. Wilson, King, S. B. Lee, Spring, Cory, Littell, Rice, Raymond, McLean, Irwin, Printz, Coburn, Redington, Lewis, A. Mitchell, Boardman, Collins, Heberton, Grier, Latta, Clark, Cross, McGill, McDonald, Sterrett, McCord, Marr, Graham, Cunningham, Quillin, Porter, R. M. White, Orr, A. D. Campbell, Lecch, Marshall, Kiddoo, Core, Lowrie, Comingo, J. D. Scott, Kerr, Hanna, Williams, Nevin, McCready, Francis, Price, James Anderson, Bailey, Rowland, Belville, McKee, J. L. Wilson, D. Lee, Weaver, McGookin, W. C. Anderson, Holliday, Monfort, Williamson, Spilman, Galt, Joseph Anderson, Bergen, W. D. Jones, McElvaine, Forsythe, Todd, Feemster, Brown, S. Crawford, McCorkle, Francisco, W. N. Scott, McKenzie, W. S. White, Hart, Matthews, B. C. Jones, Montgomery, McPheeters, McNeill, Caldwell, Wyly, Deery, Helm, Harrison, Cater, Whitner, Brearley, Thornwell, P. S. Smith, Safford, Hamilton, MeJunkin, Bradshaw, Stanton.—109.

EXCUSED FROM VOTING—Mr. Stafford.

So the request was not agreed to.

Messrs. Boardman, Belville, and Hamilton were appointed a committee to bring in a minute expressive of the reasons of the Assembly for the above decision.

The committee who were appointed to write a letter to the churches on the subject of foreign missions, made a report, which was adopted and ordered to be printed in the Appendix.

The committee to prepare the Narrative of the State of Religion made a report, which was adopted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix.

And the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday morning, June 2d, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The order of the day was taken up—viz. the complaint of the Presbytery of Blairsville against the Synod of Pittsburgh.

The decision complained of, the complainants' reasons, and the records of the Synod in the case were read. The Presbytery and the Synod were heard; and after debate it was

Resolved, That the complaint be sustained, and Messrs. Prime, Spring, and Mitchell were appointed a committee to form a minute expressive of the views of the Assembly in the case.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave to Messrs. Cory, Roscoe, Sterrett, Francis.

The committee to whom was referred the subject of agencies made a report, which was considered until

The Assembly adjourned until this afternoon at 3½ o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday afternoon, 3½ o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The committee to whom was referred the memorial from the Presbytery of Tombeckbee reported, and it was

Resolved, That the line dividing the Synods of Alabama and Mississippi, adopted at the last meeting of the General Assembly, be so changed as to include within the limits of the Presbytery of Tombeckbee the *whole* of the counties of Chickasaw, Choctaw, and Pontotoc and the counties of Tippah and Tishamingo, and that all the ministers and churches within the aforesaid counties be attached to the Presbytery of Tombeckbee.

The same committee made a further report, which was adopted, viz.:

That the resolution No. 3, on page 176 of the printed minutes of the last Assembly, be again sent down to the Synod of Alabama, as the Assembly have no evidence that the Synod acted on that resolution at its last meeting.

The committee appointed to draft a minute in relation to the decision of the complaint of the Presbytery of Blairsville reported the following, which was adopted, viz.:

The Assembly deem it proper, in sustaining the complaint of the Presbytery of Blairsville, to declare that they do it on the ground that the decision of the Synod of Pittsburgh disapproving of the act of the Presbytery, if carried into effect, would render it necessary for the churches in that Presbytery, and any other within the bounds of that Synod, whose practice may be the same, to change their usage as to the manner of electing ruling elders, which by the constitution is left to be regulated by "the mode most approved and in use in each church." At the same time, the Assembly, in coming to this result, have no design to establish a uniform mode of electing elders throughout the Church, which is designedly left, by the constitution, to be regulated by the usage of each particular church.

And it may be added that in those churches in which the usage has prevailed for the existing eldership to determine when and how large an addition shall be made to the Session, the Church has an effectual security against the abuse of that power in the right of appeal or complaint secured by the constitution.

The unfinished business of this morning was resumed—viz. the report of the Committee on Agencies, which was further considered, and on being put, the report was not agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Boardman,

Resolved, That it is the deliberate conviction of this Assembly, formed as the result of much experience, that an efficient system of agencies, by which the churches of our connection may be visited from year to year, is in the present condition of Christian feeling and knowledge on the subject of benevolent operations absolutely indispensable.

The committee appointed to draft a minute expressive of the views of the Assembly, and the reasons for their decision on the question submitted to them in the memorials from the Presbyteries of Louisville and Salem, reported the following, which was adopted:

That, in the view of this Assembly, the change proposed in these memorials in the plan for conducting missionary operations, if adopted, would not only be of no advantage, but decidedly and seriously injurious both to the cause of missions and to the great interests of the Presbyterian Church.

The Assembly fear it would hazard, if not destroy, that *unity of purpose and action* which imparts strength and vigor to the operations of their Board; that it would almost necessarily open the door for similar applications from other portions of the Church, and eventually lead to the appointment of sectional, independent missionary committees in the several sections of the Church. Nor would the evil probably be limited to our missionary operations. The plan, if adopted, we fear would be extended to the other Boards of the Church, and might eventually hazard the *unity of the Church itself*.

As it regards the West, for whose special benefit the measure is proposed, the Assembly have serious doubts whether the plan proposed, if adopted, would not be injurious rather than beneficial to the missionary cause in the West, while all the advantages proposed by a change they believe can be secured by a wise and vigorous prosecution of the missionary work on the plan now in operation. For the reasons specified, which cannot be enlarged upon in a minute, the Assembly have felt themselves called upon to decline granting the request in these memorials.

The unfinished business of Saturday was taken up—viz. the report of the committee on the special report of the Trustees respecting the receipts and expenditures for the lawsuit; which was amended and adopted as follows, viz.:

The committee to whom was referred the Treasurer's report of receipts and disbursements on account of the recent lawsuit have obtained from the Treasurer the following supplemental statement, and they report:

That the whole amount received from all sources for this account has been \$6293.80, and the whole amount paid out has been \$4204.92. Of this balance has been paid out by order of the Trustees, \$1401.17, the amount of the claim of the Associate Reformed Church, leaving still a balance in the Treasurer's hands of \$687.71. The committee recommend that the report of the Treasurer referred to this committee, as well as the supplemental report herewith furnished, be printed in the Appendix of the minutes of the Assembly.

Overture No. 9 was taken up, and adopted as follows, viz.:

Is it lawful for the same person to hold at the same time the two distinct offices of ruling elder and of deacon in the Presbyterian Church?

Resolved, That while it is important and desirable that the several offices in the Christian Church should be kept distinct and be sustained by different individuals wherever a sufficient number of competent men can be found, yet in the opinion of this Assembly it is not inconsistent with the constitution of the Presbyterian Church, nor with the precedent furnished in filling the office of deacon at its first institution, that where a necessity exists the same individual should sustain both offices.

On motion, the communication from the General Conference of Maine was taken up, and it was

Resolved, That the invitation from the Conference of Maine, proposing the renewal of our correspondence, be accepted.

The Rev. Reuben Smith was elected the delegate to the General Conference of Maine, and the Rev. Dr. Spring to be alternate.

The committee appointed by the last General Assembly on the subject of Presbyterian ministers supplying Congregational churches was continued.

The committee who were instructed to report on the subject of ministerial inefficiency reported; and the committee was discharged, and the subject was referred to the next General Assembly.

Overture No. 7—viz. a petition from the ministers and churches in Michigan, who were, by a resolution of the last Assembly, attached to the Synod of Cincinnati, requesting that that resolution may be repealed and that the petitioners may be attached to the Synod of Indiana—was taken up, when it was

Resolved, That the request be granted.

The Committee on Mileage made an additional report, recommending that the Rev. James Latta, omitted in their previous report, may be allowed to draw \$3.17, his proportion from the remainder of the Commissioners' Fund. The report was adopted.

Judicial Business No. 2—viz. the complaint of the church of Crab Apple against the Synod of Pittsburgh—was taken up and referred to the Presbytery of St. Clairsville, on the ground of the development of additional testimony, and because such is the wish of the complainants, and that the Presbytery of St. Clairsville be instructed to take up the matter *de novo*.

The following protest was presented and recorded, viz. :

The undersigned do hereby protest against the decision of this Assembly, sustaining the complaint against the Synod of Pittsburgh in the case of the Presbytery of Blairsville, chiefly because this decision prevents any church from changing their usages on the mode of electing their elders, although the usage may conflict with the constitutional right of each and every individual church-member to say who and how many elders the interests of the Church may require. (See Constitution, ch. 1, sec. 6.) When the Assembly refer to a redress by a complaint to Presbytery we ask, Will the Presbytery or can the Presbytery suffer a complaint to lie, looking at this decision of the Assembly, when the election has been had according to usage? We consider this kind of redress illusory, and cannot forbear to record our solemn protest against the aforesaid decision.

JOHN L. BELVILLE,	A. D. MONTGOMERY,
WILLIAM D. JONES,	W. MCGOOKEN,
JOSHUA L. WILSON,	JOHN CORE,
B. C. JONES,	A. J. McELVAINE.

Bills for the incidental expenses, amounting to \$147.50, were presented; and it was

Resolved, That the Trustees be directed to pay the same out of the contingent fund.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Assembly be given to the Trustees of the Seventh Presbyterian Church for their generosity in giving to this General Assembly the gratuitous use of their church for our sessions.

Resolved, That the thanks of the General Assembly be presented to the citizens of Philadelphia for their generous hospitality to the members during these sessions.

On motion of Dr. Spring, it was

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to revise the articles of correspondence between this General Assembly and the General Association of Connecticut, with a particular view of ascertaining whether the certificates given to ministers and candidates from the State of Connecticut shall not hereafter be required from the Pastoral Union, and not as heretofore from the General Association; and that this committee report to the next General Assembly.

Messrs. Gardiner Spring, William W. Phillips, and John M. Krebs were appointed the committee.

The minutes of the present session were read and approved.

The roll was called, and the following persons were marked absent at the close of the session without leave—viz. Alden Scovell, Ezekiel Quillin, John S. Weaver, Joseph Markle, Joseph Moody, William A. Holliday, Wm. G. Campbell, Alex. B. McCorkle, John T. Cookus, John D. Matthews, William Derry.

The Assembly having finished their business, it was

Resolved, That this General Assembly be dissolved, and that another General Assembly, chosen in like manner, be required to meet in such place, in the city of Philadelphia, as shall be designated by the Stated and Permanent Clerks, on the third Thursday of May, A. D. 1841.

Accordingly, the Moderator dissolved the Assembly with prayer, singing, and the apostolic benediction.

JOHN M. KREBS, *Permanent Clerk*.

Philadelphia, June 2, 1840.

APPENDIX.

NARRATIVE OF THE STATE OF RELIGION.

CHRISTIAN BRETHREN:

In the Narrative of the State of Religion issued by the last General Assembly you were called upon to rejoice in the termination of that painful conflict which had for so many years agitated our beloved Church. We have now the satisfaction of informing you that the gracious interposition of God by which we were delivered, on the one hand, from pernicious heresies and disorders, and on the other from the oppression of the civil power, has been followed by many signal mercies, in the view of which we are constrained to say, "The Lord hath done great things for us, whereof we are glad."

Among the pleasing indications which have characterized the state of the churches generally during the past year are the following, to wit: the prevalence of peace and harmony, the natural result of a union in the faith and order of our standards; a growing attention to the religious education of the children of the Church, and especially to their instruction in the Catechism; the enlargement and increased efficiency of Sabbath-schools; more vigorous and systematic labors for the spiritual improvement of the colored population in the Southern States; an increased attendance upon the means of grace in nearly all our churches; a rising standard of Christian liberality; and a cordial attachment to the Boards entrusted with the management of our benevolent operations. We learn also with much pleasure that in a large number of our congregations the monthly concert of prayer is more numerously attended than it has been at any former period. As this change is ascribed to the transfer of the concert to the first Sabbath of the month, we advise all our churches to consider the expediency of adopting this arrangement; while at the same time we leave any churches which may prefer it at full liberty to adhere to the original practice of celebrating this interesting service on the first Monday evening of the month.

In addition to the encouraging circumstances already mentioned, there is another feature in the religious history of the past year which demands our most fervent gratitude to God. It has been, to a very gratifying extent, a *year of revivals*. We are not able to state with precision how many revivals have taken place within our bounds, but we gather from the reports of the Presbyteries that about one hundred of our churches have experienced special manifestations of the power and grace of God. We find cause for thankfulness as well in the character as in the number of these revivals. A train of events which need not be detailed had fostered the sentiment very widely that revivals were scarcely to be expected without a resort to some other measures than the stated ordinances of the sanctuary. This feeling has been rebuked, for nearly all the revivals of the last twelve months among our churches have taken place in connection with the ordinary means of grace. The wonders of mercy which we are permitted to record have been wrought by the faithful ministration of the truth, enforced by pastoral visitation, and rendered effectual by the sovereign grace of God. Again, instead of the disorders and extravagances which frequently attend spurious religious excitements these scenes have been pervaded with that solemn stillness which marks all the sublimest operations of the Deity, both in nature and in grace;

for the creation of a world is a work of silent grandeur, and the "wind that bloweth where it listeth" is not so noiseless as the Spirit's work upon the heart.

Another fact of peculiar interest in relation to these revivals is that they have extended to most of our *large cities*. New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Albany, Troy, Pittsburgh, Mobile, New Orleans, and other cities have shared largely in this benign work, and upon some of them the Spirit has been poured out more gloriously than at any former period. This fact cannot be too highly appreciated when it is considered how many barriers to the progress of religion are concentrated in all large cities, and how mighty an agency they exert in moulding the character and shaping the destiny of nations.

There is another aspect in which this last-mentioned class of revivals may be viewed. The financial embarrassments of the country, while they have deranged every branch of industry and wellnigh paralyzed all our great national interests, have pressed with peculiar weight upon our cities. Here, where enterprise, and opulence, and luxury have had their chief abode, the blow has fallen with unmitigated severity, and affluence and grandeur have, in ten thousand instances, given place to bankruptcy and want. Can we fail to associate with this fact the peaceful and holy triumphs which Christianity has just achieved in the midst of these desolations? Is there not apparent, in the succession of these events, the superintending providence of a righteous and merciful God, first smiting us in wrath for our sins, and especially for our great characteristic sin, the lust of accumulation, and then, having taught us in a way not to be misunderstood that "the fashion of this world passeth away," coming forth in the plenitude of his compassions to bind up the wounds inflicted by his rod and to replace our poor, fading riches with satisfying and imperishable treasures?

But while we rejoice in the revivals with which we have been visited, we cannot withhold from you the fact that, however numerous these seasons of refreshing have been as compared with previous years, they have occurred in only one-eighteenth part of our churches. We feel humbled in recording the statement (founded on the reports of the Presbyteries) that among the great mass of our congregations there has been no special attention to religion during the year, and that in some of the Presbyteries vital piety has been apparently on the decline. We admonish the Presbyteries and churches to which the painful representation applies to "search and try their ways." We urge them to seek out the causes of their spiritual declension and to "turn with fasting and with weeping and with mourning unto the Lord their God; for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and of great kindness, and who knoweth if he will return and repent and leave a blessing behind him?"

We are pained to learn that the desecration of the Sabbath continues to be a prominent, if not a growing, sin in almost every part of the land. The proper observance of this holy day is closely associated with our dearest civil rights and our most precious religious privileges, with the stability of our political institutions and the safety of the Church. We enjoin it upon all our ministers, Sessions, and members, therefore, to redouble their efforts to suppress the sin of Sabbath-breaking and to promote a becoming regard for the sanctuary and its ordinances.

In reference to the subject of temperance, the Assembly regret to learn that this important interest is less thriving than it has been in some former years. It appears to be gaining ground, however, in some parts of the Church, and we believe that its decline in other places is to be ascribed more to the culpable apathy of its friends than to the opposition of its enemies.

Among the subjects which claim the special attention of the Church, the religious education of the young is of pre-eminent importance. We are pleased to find that our Sabbath-school system appears to be gaining upon the confidence of the churches; but we caution heads of families against the idea that their duties may be delegated to the Sabbath-school teacher. The obligations of parents are intransferable—the teacher is not the parent's substitute, but his helper; and it is equally the duty of the parent to superintend the instruction of his family as though there were no such thing as a Sabbath-school. These schools, it may be remarked here, should always be under the direction of the pastor and Session, and they should see to it that our Catechisms constitute, in all cases, a part of the regular course of instruction.

We have two other suggestions to make to Christian parents on this general subject. One is, that they cause their children to be brought up in the faith of their fathers. We do not mean by this that our youth should be prevented from following out their honest convictions of duty, but that they should be dissuaded from uniting with other denominations from mere caprice or childish fancies. We consider the conduct of those parents who suffer their children to abandon our own Church without any adequate reason as in a high degree reprehensible, and calculated to inflict a serious injury both on the Church and on their individual households.

Again, we suggest to Christian parents the important duty of dedicating their children to God, and especially of pleading continually with the Most High (in subordination to his holy will) to sanctify their sons and prepare them for the sacred ministry. Our feelings have been deeply enlisted in this subject by the statements laid before us from the Board of Education, which show that the number of our candidates for the ministry is decreasing. We call upon all the pious parents in our communion to consider this affecting circumstance. We have hundreds of vacant churches in our connection; several millions of the population of the Union are believed to be destitute of the stated means of grace; the heathen world, spread out before us as one vast scene of crime and cruelty and woe, appeals to us with an unyielding and soul-piercing importunity to send them relief, and yet our candidates for the ministry are fewer now than they have been for five years. Will you not lay this to heart? Will you not bring your sons and consecrate them anew to your covenant God? Will you not give over seeking for them the transitory honors and riches of the world, and pray the Lord of the harvest, if it seem good in his sight, to anoint them with his Spirit and send them forth into his harvest, which is perishing for lack of laborers?

Another duty which we urge upon our members is that of cherishing an enlightened attachment to our own Church in her doctrines, her order, and her benevolent institutions. This duty is demanded of us by Christian consistency. We have a system of faith and order which we profess to believe is founded on the word of God. We cannot, then, with any consistency refuse to protect it or refrain from suitable exertions for extending its influence. If, indeed, one form of ecclesiastical government is just as scriptural as another, and if there is no essential difference between Calvinism on the one hand and Arminianism or Pelagianism on the other, we may, in perfect accordance with our principles, leave our own Church to take care of itself, while we employ our efforts in the wide field of universal philanthropy; but no intelligent Presbyterian will assent to sentiments like these.

The relation in which we stand to other denominations furnishes another reason why we should consolidate our strength and foster our own institutions. It is obviously for the interest of the evangelical churches in our country that they should preserve a mutually good understanding with each other. Per-

haps the best way to secure this is for each sect to move in its own appropriate sphere, the different denominations uniting together only in those plans and organizations which require no sacrifice of their distinctive principles. Our sister churches are, it is well known, actively engaged in fortifying their respective positions and extending their boundaries. We are so far from complaining of this that we commend them for their fidelity to their principles, and in so far as they are propagating the truth we bid them God-speed. But we urge their activity as a motive why we also should be up and doing. If it becomes them to be active, it becomes us much more. For they are imbued with a denominational feeling of long standing and mighty energy; among us this feeling is in its infancy. Again, the late distractions in our Church have made it necessary that we should increase our exertions in order to neutralize the allurements frequently held out to entice our people into other sects. It should also be considered that our system of doctrine encounters in every direction a formidable phalanx of prejudice and misrepresentation, so that it requires more effort to propagate it than it does to disseminate doctrines which, being less scriptural, are less repugnant to the unsanctified heart. Unless, therefore, we emulate the zeal of other churches we cannot expect to retain the relative position which we have long occupied among the leading denominations of this land. This position we have no right to sacrifice to indolence, avarice, a spurious charity, or anything else short of a providential disability beyond our control. For it is not merely our reputation as a Church that is involved in this matter, but the sacred obligations which we are under to the God of our fathers and the general interests of Christianity in the world.

Another reason why we should gather around our own institutions is to be found in the condition of our beloved country. These are times of excitement and agitation. The state of the country for several years past has been like a boiling caldron. It would seem as though the spirit of discord had obtained leave to go forth for a season through the land and work mischief at his will. Commerce, politics, religion, every earthly, every sacred interest has been touched with his demoniac wand and thrown into wild confusion. Most of the great religious denominations have either been rent asunder or shaken to their centre with intestine commotions. And the conflicting elements of the age are continually generating new and monstrous heresies both in religion and morals. Under these circumstances self-preservation requires us to tighten the bands which unite us as a denomination and to cement into a closer alliance the different parts of our wide-spread communion.

But it is not enough that we consolidate our strength, that we purge out the leaven of heresy and gather with undivided ranks around our institutions. All this we may do, and yet vital godliness may decline amongst us. We call upon all, therefore, who love the Presbyterian Church and desire her prosperity not to rest satisfied with a heartless orthodoxy, but to labor to diffuse throughout our bounds a more fervent, practical, self-sacrificing piety, a more enlarged benevolence, a pure and more constant zeal for the glory of God and the salvation of men. This is the return, and the only return, which it becomes us to make to God for the multitude of his loving-kindnesses and tender mercies. The Assembly feel that there is but too much reason for this exhortation. They fear that the Church has been leavened to an alarming extent with a secular spirit; that the line which separates her from the world is less distinct than it once was; that, with all her activity in helping on the various schemes of benevolence, there is a selfish, ease-loving spirit eating at the core of her piety, which threatens, unless arrested, to disrobe her of her spiritual glories and dress her up in the tinsel garments

of earthly splendor. The work of reformation has indeed begun, and a brighter day is dawning upon us. But the work can be carried forward to its consummation only by the efficient co-operation of all our judicatories and members. Let the Synods and Presbyteries which have borne an illustrious testimony against error and fanaticism now reprobate a conformity to the world as equally at variance with true religion. Let the ministry give themselves wholly to the work to which they have been ordained; and in order that they may do this let the churches see that they are provided with an adequate support. Let Sunday-school teachers pursue their benign work with increasing assiduity and prayer. Let parents repair their family altars and spend more time and pains in the religious instructions of their households. Let men of business guard against the insidious temptations to dishonesty which, in these times of financial distress, beset them all in the walks of trade. Let individual Christians cultivate a spirit of entire self-consecration to the Redeemer. Let fervent and unceasing prayer ascend to heaven from every part of the Church for a great and glorious, a universal and permanent, revival of religion. Let the opulent from their abundance and the poor from their pittance bring their offerings to the house of the Lord with a cheerful hand. Let a new impulse be given to all our benevolent enterprises. Let our own exuberant mercies, the necessities of the perishing heathen, and, above all, the infinite condescension and grace of the Redeemer, arouse the Church to the great duty of evangelizing the world, and impel her to enter upon it with an ardor and liberality commensurate with the magnitude of the work and the debt of gratitude she owes to her God and Saviour.

Should these suggestions meet with that response which we have a right to expect, we feel persuaded that our beloved Church will, under the divine blessing, "arise and shine;" that her "righteousness will go forth as brightness, and her salvation as a lamp that burneth;" and that she will maintain, as she has hitherto done, an honorable rank among her sister churches in building up that kingdom which is "righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Ghost."

WILLIAM M. ENGLES, *Moderator*.

SUMMARY VIEW OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES, FOR 1840.

PRESBYTERIES.	Ministers.	Licentiate.	Candidates.	Churches.	Com. added on Examination.	Com. added on Certificate.	Total of Communicants.	Adults Bap- tized.	Infants Bap- tized.	Funds raised for Dom. Mis- sions.	Funds raised for For. Mis- sions.	Funds raised for Education.	Funds raised for Theological Seminaries.	Funds raised for Board of Commissioners.	Contingent Fund.	OF PRESBYTERIES.	STATED CLERKS
Londonderry	22	...	...	10	10	...	1766	...	10	\$ 9 13	\$ 17 20	...	...	\$ 22 50	\$ 16 50	.....	Edward L. Parker.
Ogdenburgh	3	...	...	4	12	10	493	...	1	26	...	...	...	21 50	...	.....	John A. Savage.
Troy	7	3	4	8	86	57	1187	37	49	1034 24	\$ 700 00	...	...	26 00	21 77	...	W. D. Snodgrass, D.D.
Albany	32	3	...	27	109	75	3265	15	128	994 82	1399 38	820 25	...	1963 73	72 92	100 00	John Clancy.
Columbia	6	...	...	3	2	7	127	...	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Alfred Gardner.
Hudson	21	1	2	24	41	17	1899	12	33	197 00	273 19	60 00	...	12 00	34 76	24 89	John H. Leggett.
North River	6	1	2	6	23	21	583	6	17	2241 28	248 85	50 00	...	...	25 00	6 35	John Johnston.
Bedford	16	3	16	22	9	1017	1017	16	31	392 29	737 71	202 00	...	5 00	41 45	17 90	Jacob Green.
Long Island	5	2	...	5	13	14	954	7	34	220 00	140 00	26 50	...	...	2 50	...	Hugh N. Wilson.
Long Island 2d	8	1	1	11	33	11	848	15	47	15 50	44 00	...	...	...	24 77	7 81	James M'Dougall.
New York	28	8	9	13	207	147	3355	38	222	3878 29	5089 50	2317 12	1443 00	436 67	136 44	119 96	Elias W. Crane.
New York 2d	8	...	...	7	57	76	1115	6	88	758 00	2075 00	650 00	...	...	51 00	10 00	Joseph M'Eroy, D.D.
Elizabethtown	29	6	5	23	85	95	3721	21	127	409 15	870 50	531 19	...	23 00	34 27	34 27	James M. Huntington.
New Brunswick	36	8	12	19	177	101	3501	78	155	787 83	1443 47	331 00	30 00	763 42	48 26	42 79	Eli F. Cooley.
Newton	19	5	4	24	116	71	2905	41	166	942 25	942 25	474 25	...	...	26 00	...	John Gray.
Susquehanna	10	...	3	17	77	22	1038	15	63	155 83	199 03	91 25	...	325 94	44 50	...	John Dorrance.
Caledonia	9	...	...	6	38	8	382	3	49	14 00	99 84	...	...	85 00	50 10	6 00	Isaac W. Platt.
Raritan	9	1	...	14	63	18	1260	27	88	52 67	107 90	168 00	...	94 40	12 80	9 00	Peter O. Studdiford.
Philadelphia	25	10	7	18	285	181	2784	44	230	3168 08	3147 81	3587 92	...	3501 32	75 95	57 95	Wm. M. Engles, D.D.
Philadelphia 2d	12	2	3	13	41	29	794	13	51	96 63	441 00	75 00	...	1342 75	16 50	16 50	William D. Howard.
West Jersey	12	2	2	13	33	59	1085	68	34	192 78	768 21	345 75	...	2059 66	2 00	48 50	S. Beach Jones.
Newcastle	30	6	1	40	91	73	3335	24	233	544 32	891 72	504 58	172 25	6275 96	13 00	5 00	Robert P. Du Bois.
Baltimore	12	5	3	13	81	21	999	6	59	567 00	1393 63	901 40	122 00	6375 96	6 95	11 95	John P. Carter.
Carlisle	28	1	5	43	172	91	3482	18	187	150 35	1553 37	61 25	31 50	749 50	20 00	22 50	James C. Watson.
Huntingdon	20	5	1	34	145	85	2915	18	245	500 75	569 32	426 82	251 11	628 80	65 00	15 00	Josiah Moore.
Northumberland	18	...	...	24	67	44	1743	6	152	101 20	1148 53	...	...	1258 42	59 00	10 00	Isaac Orier.
Blairsville	19	4	5	34	227	165	3836	29	307	405 05	795 27	224 68	798 95	34 00	93 21	10 50	Watson Hughes.
Redstone	15	4	3	29	90	73	2577	26	169	874 50	494 41	442 43	607 06	1363 75	58 20	8 50	Asabel G. Fairchild.
Washington	20	6	8	24	183	141	3453	51	317	2654 44	438 54	865 17	367 38	26 40	76 12	13 50	William P. Alrich.
Ohio	35	2	6	32	250	197	3653	38	249	674 29	1761 00	891 41	3021 66	28 00	86 66	19 00	William Jeffery.
Allegheny	14	2	5	30	126	65	2002	20	190	186 89	164 50	12 02	285 63	21 21	47 58	6 00	Loyal Young.
Steubenville	15	1	1	24	182	83	2128	45	230	223 34	515 26	215 00	603 80	157 50	72 00	28 00	Charles C. Beatty.

St. Claireville	13	...	1	18	71	68	1205	21	136	192	50	264	28	...	261	85	5	00	80	00	4	00	Benjamin Mitchell.
Beaver	10	1	3	16	72	56	1475	22	132	142	59	340	00	...	125	88	...	...	56	58	1	00	Robert Dilworth.
New Lisbon	11	1	1	22	90	48	1385	15	165	368	96	...	...	17	50	233	74	...	11	50	3	00	William O. Stratton.
Erie	10	3	...	27	41	30	1843	6	82	105	40	200	01	...	82	96	22	00	51	54	3	00	Abraham McCreedy.
Columbus	11	2	1	15	81	37	1022	17	59	276	00	252	00	...	35	00	240	00	50	00	10	00	James Hoge, D. D.
Marion	6	...	2	21	27	46	701	5	46	59	25	10	00	...	24	00	...	...	69	87	2	50	W. D. Smith.
Lancaster	13	...	...	24	111	95	1872	22	150	236	73	265	76	...	130	00	260	82	101	00	10	66	James Culbertson.
Richland	10	4	4	23	71	84	1725	20	103	179	19	33	50	...	9	00	148	75	47	31	7	02	James Rowland.
Wooster	19	3	...	34	167	148	2290	35	240	126	72	166	82	...	79	11	225	78	46	53	4	62	James B. Morrow.
Chillicothe.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Miami	8	4	3	21	77	54	1336	20	99	377	46	62	13	...	...	...	291	60	118	12	2	50	James C. Barnes.
Cincinnati	7	1	...	17	84	56	1249	10	83	541	91	406	66	...	73	00	723	58	142	00	...	...	John Bart.
Oxford	20	2	6	29	82	62	921	20	55	373	50	57	60	...	10	00	38	45	84	74	...	...	Thomas E. Hughes.
Sidney	8	...	...	19	27	41	586	5	34	110	00	...	...	...	...	...	151	00	16	00	...	...	Samuel Clelland.
Salen	8	2	2	13	74	38	705	23	60	370	25	305	18	...	213	00	135	00	130	00	4	50	W. C. Anderson.
Vincennes	10	5	...	20	22	28	673	2	38	75	80	31	37	...	151	73	270	62	...	...	1	25	James Crawford.
Madison	9	6	8	16	65	33	515	10	55	68	50	152	66	...	...	...	582	40	72	95	10	00	Wm. C. Matthews.
Crawfordsville	5	...	1	16	15	36	635	6	42	19	00	...	...	...	...	...	17	18	89	75	...	...	Wm. A. Holliday.
Indianapolis	8	...	2	21	204	82	1097	62	108	433	23	407	43	...	202	00	31	00	104	50	4	66	P. M. Stewart.
Logansport	11	1	...	22	71	33	486	22	43	...	...	20	00	...	37	56	93	50	59	75	4	50	A. Williamson.
Kaskaskia	7	1	...	16	24	23	441	9	36	53	25	15	50	...	...	...	9	75	33	82	...	...	B. F. Spilman.
Sangamon	5	...	...	9	10	26	369	2	13	137	86	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	John G. Bergen.
Schuyler	13	...	...	18	32	73	426	6	59	2	50	42	31	...	...	...	117	74	22	50	...	...	James M. Chase.
Paletine	9	...	...	12	38	21	301	16	54	36	72	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	J. Bennet.
Peoria	3	...	...	11	1	...	258	...	4	17	75	3	50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	George G. Sill.
Missouri	6	1	...	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	J. L. Yantis.
St. Louis	9	1	...	14	28	66	504	6	39	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	John F. Cowan.
St. Charles	7	...	1	6	...	4	222	...	18	36	00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	H. Chamberlain.
Louisville	19	3	...	23	215	62	1392	77	106	888	90	1755	98	...	93	00	754	96	135	00	39	00	W. B. Brockbridge.
Muhlenburg	7	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	W. D. Jones.
Tennessee	13	3	3	27	187	38	2292	80	56	480	00	1205	61	...	...	...	845	41	28	50	...	...	Timothy Root.
West Lexington	16	3	3	29	77	42	1347	35	70	719	25	726	00	...	10	00	182	50	103	00	15	50	C. A. Campbell.
Ebenezer	12	1	1	25	100	27	780	43	63	140	00	198	00	...	...	...	296	00	80	50	...	...	R. C. Grundy.
Abingdon.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Greenbrier	9	1	1	17	50	9	1380	4	79	54	07	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	W. G. Campbell.
Lexington	27	3	5	38	48	27	4735	9	172	217	00	1133	70	...	50	00	1474	89	151	50	23	00	J. A. Van Lear.
Winchester	15	4	6	25	46	26	1190	9	84	227	50	602	03	...	...	...	1194	35	42	00	3	00	Peyton Harrison.
Dis. of Columbia	5	2	2	5	26	6	281	3	21	185	00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Elias Harrison.
West Hanover	24	10	...	36	26	31	891	32	15	224	50	451	00	...	...	...	1008	25	91	00	...	...	James Whaley.
East Hanover	10	3	1	10	32	58	873	7	45	1188	95	1389	19	...	40	00	1591	00	81	00	28	00	John Jeybarn.
Orange	31	1	5	42	73	13	2160	30	85	422	33	863	07	...	3	50	514	10	134	00	26	00	N. H. Harding.
Fayetteville	19	2	15	43	36	4	2123	1	85	40	00	290	81	...	...	...	218	62	94	86	10	50	D. McNeil Turner.

PRESBYTERIES.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Com. added on Examination.	Com. added on Certificate.	Total of Communicants.	Adults Bap- tized.	Infants Bap- tized.	Funds raised for Dom. Missions.	Funds raised for Foreign Missions.	Funds raised for Education.	Funds raised for Theological Seminaries.	Funds raised for Board of Publication.	Commissioners Fund.	Contingent Fund.	STATED CLERKS OF PRESBYTERIES.
Concord.....	23	1	2	32	173	25	334	46	243	\$ 166 00	\$ 667 50	\$ 83 75	.....	\$ 599 52	\$ 80 00	\$ 3 00	Samuel Williamson.
Morganton.....	5	...	19	...	...	...	814	...	13	25 00	96 00	.....	.....	255 73	.....	.....	J. S. McCutchan.
Holston.....	9	...	2	14	71	10	855	19	52	104 68	10 50	.....	.....	18 75	79 00	1 50	Samuel W. Doak.
West Tennessee.....	7	...	...	15	25	2	1032	7	58	130 25	113 37	55 00	.....	1360 00	.....	.....	James M. Arnell.
Nashville.....	12	...	...	13	62	29	910	14	61	326 62	1123 24	926 37	.....	.....	45 55	8 50	John T. Edgar, D. D.
North Alabama.....	8	...	...	13	48	3	206	10	18	275 55	275 56	.....	.....	150 20	109 75	.....	Henry M. Kerr.
Western District.....	11	4	1	31	27	98	571	7	73	41 04	3 00	167 03	.....	.....	151 75	.....	Samuel B. Lewers.
South Carolina.....	19	1	1	38	46	25	2180	15	41	89 12	.....	98 50	.....	264 00	74 50	5 00	John B. Davies.
Bethel.....	10	3	1	19	78	13	2083	19	131	122 50	.....	38 37	\$ 180 00	.....	.....	.....	Benj. Gildersleeve.
Harmony.....	13	...	...	7	33	11	414	9	23	.....	700 00	1100 00	565 00	.....	.....	.....	Francis Bowman.
Charleston.....	20	1	4	27	33	16	875	...	...	300 00	600 00	505 00	.....	680 00	.....	.....	T. S. Witherspoon.
Georgia.....	18	2	7	40	181	92	2019	55	104	178 25	492 43	325 87	.....	647 10	187 37	5 00	James N. Carothers.
Hopewell.....	14	1	5	24	131	47	1104	45	72	201 50	1083 25	189 00	.....	1135 13	160 50	5 00	Thomas C. Stuart.
Flint River.....	10	1	1	20	52	22	472	14	37	30 00	.....	.....	.....	20 00	237 18	13 00	J. Chamberlain, D. D.
South Alabama.....	12	7	9	13	24	44	568	4	45	1890 87	2118 56	800 00	720 00	5004 52	35 25	5 00	P. Donan.
Tuscaloosa.....	11	...	...	19	27	43	486	13	23	.....	110 00	.....	.....	25 00	.....	.....	C. Kingsbury.
Tombecbee.....	7	1	...	7	18	11	242	8	13	.....	43 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Mississippi.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Clinton.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Arkansas.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Louisiana.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals.....	1615	185	199	1673	6944	4200	126583	1741	7844	35113 61	48523 14	25578 51	8064 67	50190 21	5063 11	965 05	

1841.

PHILADELPHIA, *May 20th*, 1841.

THE General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America met, agreeably to appointment, in the Seventh Presbyterian Church, in the city of Philadelphia, on Thursday, the 20th day of May, A. D. 1841, at 11 o'clock A. M.; and was opened with a sermon by the Rev. William M. Engles, D. D., Moderator of the last Assembly, from Luke xviii. 13, "On the evils resulting to the Church of Christ and to the world from a deficient conviction of sin."

After the sermon the Moderator gave notice that as soon as the benediction was pronounced he would take the chair and proceed to the organization of the Assembly. The Moderator accordingly took the chair, and opened the session with prayer.

The Permanent Clerk, from the Standing Committee of Commissions, reported that the following persons, present, have been duly appointed and are hereby enrolled as Commissioners to this General Assembly, and laid their Commissions on the table, viz.:

I. OF THE SYNOD OF ALBANY.

PRESBYTERIES.	BISHOPS.	RULING ELDERS.
<i>Londonderry,</i>	John M. C. Bartley,	Daniel Mack.
<i>Ogdensburg,</i>	John Eastman.	
<i>Troy,</i>	John H. Symmes (3),*	Seth Seely (1).
<i>Albany,</i>	William J. Monteith,	Selah Munson.
	Hugh Mair (1),	Peter Boyd.
<i>Columbia,</i>	William Chester.	

II. OF THE SYNOD OF NEW YORK.

<i>Hudson,</i>	Robt. McCartee, D. D.,	Wm. S. Little (2).
<i>North River,</i>	Wm. J. McCord.	
<i>Bedford,</i>		David C. Delavan.
<i>Long Island,</i>	Joseph A. Copp.	
<i>Long Island 2d,</i>	Sylv. Woodbridge, Jr.,	David Hendrickson.
<i>New York,</i>	Jared Dewing,	Silas Holmes.
	Edw. D. Smith,	John Leveridge (1).
<i>New York 2d,</i>	J. J. Janeway, D. D.	

III. OF THE SYNOD OF NEW JERSEY.

<i>Elizabethtown,</i>	Benjamin Cory,	Job Squire.
	Shep. K. Kollock,	James W. Wade.
<i>New Brunswick,</i>	Albert B. Dod,	Sam. M. Hamill.
	Charles Webster,	Joseph Titus (1).
<i>Newton,</i>	Elias S. Sehenek (1),	James Wilson (3).
<i>Susquehanna,</i>	Isaac Todd,	Charles Fuller.
<i>Caledonia,</i>	David Harrower (2).	
<i>Raritan,</i>	Jas. M. Ohnstead,	Wm. Wilson.

* A figure attached to the name of a member shows that he was not enrolled by the Committee of Commissions in their report at the opening of the Assembly, but that he was subsequently enrolled and took his seat on that day of the sessions designated by the figure.

IV. OF THE SYNOD OF PHILADELPHIA.

PRESBYTERIES.	BISHOPS.	RULING ELDERS.
<i>Philadelphia,</i>	J. McDowell, D. D.,	Alex. W. Mitchell.
	Charles Williamson,	Joseph B. Mitchell.
<i>Philadelphia 2d,</i>	Wm. Neill, D. D.,	Robert Pattison.
<i>West Jersey,</i>	Samuel Lawrence,	Thomas Aikman (1).
<i>New Castle,</i>	John Wallace,	James Buyers.
	T. Marshall Boggs,	James Wilson.
<i>Baltimore,</i>	R. J. Breckinridge, D. D.,	Richard J. Cross (2).
<i>Carlisle,</i>	George D. Porter,	Mich. A. Finley.
	David D. Clarke,	Edw. M. Donaldson (1).
<i>Huntingdon,</i>	John McKinney,	Samuel Witherow.
<i>Northumberland,</i>	David M. Halliday,	James F. Murray.

V. OF THE SYNOD OF PITTSBURGH.

<i>Blairsville,</i>	David Lewis,	James Shields.
<i>Redstone,</i>	Alex. McCandless,	Edgar C. Wilson (2).
<i>Washington,</i>	Ebenezer Graham,	David Riddle.
<i>Ohio,</i>	Francis Herron, D. D.,	Hugh McClelland.
	Wm. B. McIlvain.	
<i>Allegheny,</i>	Leland R. McAboy,	David McJunkin.
<i>Steubenville,</i>	Thomas F. Magill.	George Johnston.
<i>St. Clairsville,</i>	James Alexander.	
<i>Beaver,</i>	B. C. Critchlow (2).	
<i>New Lisbon,</i>	Wm. McCombs (2).	
<i>Erie,</i>	John V. Reynolds.	

VI. OF THE SYNOD OF OHIO.

<i>Columbus,</i>	George Wells,	James Torbert (2).
<i>Marion,</i>	Wm. M. Galbreath.	
<i>Lancaster,</i>	James C. Sharon.	
<i>Richland,</i>	Isaac N. Shepherd.	
<i>Wooster,</i>	John D. Hughes (2),	David D. Dowd (1).

VII. OF THE SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

<i>Chillicothe,</i>	Samuel Steel.
<i>Miami,</i>	James C. Barnes.
<i>Cincinnati,</i>	John Burtt.
<i>Oxford,</i>	Wm. W. Robertson.
<i>Sidney,</i>	Thomas B. Clark.

VIII. OF THE SYNOD OF INDIANA.

<i>Salem,</i>	Wm. C. Anderson,	Alex. Lawrence.
<i>Vincennes,</i>		Wm. French (5).
<i>Madison,</i>	James Blythe, D. D. (1).	
<i>Crawfordsville.</i>		
<i>Indianapolis,</i>	David M. Stewart.	
<i>Logansport.</i>		
<i>Michigan.</i>		

IX. OF THE SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.

<i>Kaskaskia.</i>		
<i>Sangamon,</i>		James M. Duncan (2).

PRESBYTERIES.

BISHOPS.

RULING ELDERS.

*Schuyler.**Iowa.**Palestine,**Peoria,*

E. W. Thayer (3).

Isaac Kellar.

X. OF THE SYNOD OF MISSOURI.

*Missouri,**St. Louis.**Palmyra.*

William G. Bell.

XI. OF THE SYNOD OF KENTUCKY.

*Louisville,**Muhlenburg,**Transylvania,**West Lexington,**Ebenezer,*

Wm. W. Hill,

George W. Coons.

John F. Coons,

Robert F. Caldwell.

John Eggen.

Chas. B. Donaldson.

Wm. M. Todd.

XII. OF THE SYNOD OF VIRGINIA.

*Greenbrier.**Lexington,**Winchester,**Dist. of Columbia,**West Hanover,**East Hanover,*

William Brown,

Paul E. Stevenson.

Peyton Harrison (1),

Robert T. Berry,

Geo. W. McPhail,

Joseph E. Curtis (1),

William A. Bell.

John N. Bell (4).

George Gilliss.

John A. Shearer (2).

Abel Head.

XIII. OF THE SYNOD OF NORTH CAROLINA.

*Orange,**Fayetteville,**Concord,*

John A. Gretter,

Thomas Lynch.

Archibald Smith.

John M. Wilson (2),

Robert Donnell (2).

John F. Phifer.

XIV. OF THE SYNOD OF WEST TENNESSEE.

*Holston,**West Tennessee.**Nashville,**North Alabama,**Western District,*

Charles D. Pigeon.

James L. Sloss.

Peter Bland,

A. W. Putnam (3).

John C. Cooper.

XV. OF THE SYNOD OF SOUTH CAROLINA AND GEORGIA.

*South Carolina,**Bethel,**Harmony,**Charleston,**Georgia,**Hopewell,**Flint River.**Florida,*

Edward T. Buist,

John Douglas.

Joseph Brown.

Thomas Smyth (1),

Wm. McWhir, D. D.,

John W. Baker (4).

Geo. W. Glenn (2).

Samuel Clark (2).

Peter Ken Smith (4).

John Brown, D. D. (2),

Benj. F. Whitner (2).

XVI. OF THE SYNOD OF ALABAMA.

*South Alabama,**Tuscaloosa,**Tombeckbee.*

Junius B. King (3).

William H. Williams (9).

XVII. OF THE SYNOD OF MISSISSIPPI.

PRESBYTERIES.	BISHOPS.	RULING ELDERS.
<i>Mississippi,</i>	Saml. G. Winchester,	John Gunby (4).
<i>Clinton,</i>	Daniel L. Gray (5).	
<i>Arkansas,</i>		
<i>Louisiana,</i>		Horace D. Kellogg.

CORRESPONDING BODIES.

<i>General Association of</i>	} George A. Calhoun.
<i>Connecticut.</i>	
<i>General Association of</i>	} Wm. W. Andrews (3).
<i>Massachusetts.</i>	
<i>General Conference of</i>	} Samuel Williams (6).
<i>Maine.</i>	
<i>General Synod of the</i>	} Asa Cummings (3).
<i>Reformed Protest-</i>	
<i>ant Dutch Church.</i>	Thomas DeWitt, D. D. (4).

The committee further reported that the following bishops are present without commissions—viz. Peyton Harrison, of the Presbytery of Winchester; Jos. E. Curtis, of the Presbytery of East Hanover; and Thomas Smyth, of the Presbytery of Charleston; that Mr. Edward M. Donaldson, ruling elder, has presented a certificate from the Clerk of the Presbytery of Carlisle; and further that a report has been received from the Synods of South Carolina and Georgia of their having erected a new Presbytery called the Presbytery of Florida.

On motion, Messrs. Neill, McKinney, and Holmes were appointed a Committee of Elections, to whom were referred the cases of the Commissioners reported but not enrolled by the Committee of Commissions.

And then the Assembly took a recess until this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Thursday afternoon, 4 o'clock.

After recess,

The Committee of Commissions reported the following additional Commissioners, who were enrolled—viz. of the Presbytery of Albany, Hugh Mair, bishop; of the Presbytery of Troy, Seth Seely, ruling elder; of the Presbytery of New York, John Leveridge, ruling elder; of the Presbytery of New Brunswick, Joseph Titus, ruling elder; of the Presbytery of Newton, Elias S. Schenek, bishop; of the Presbytery of West Jersey, Thomas Aikman, ruling elder; of the Presbytery of Wooster, David D. Dowd, ruling elder; of the Presbytery of Madison, James Blythe, D. D., bishop. Also J. A. Shearer, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of West Hanover, who is present without a commission; which case was referred to the Committee of Elections.

The Committee of Elections made a report on the cases referred to them, which was adopted as follows, viz.:

That Joseph E. Curtis, bishop, from the Presbytery of East Hanover; Peyton Harrison, bishop, from the Presbytery of Winchester; Thomas Smyth, bishop, from the Presbytery of Charleston; and Edward M. Donaldson, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Carlisle, be enrolled.

Also, that the Presbytery of Florida, in the Synod of South Carolina and Georgia, be recognized and enrolled.

The Rev. Robert J. Breekinridge, D. D., was elected Moderator, and the Rev. James C. Barnes, Temporary Clerk.

The printed minutes of the last Assembly were presented, and distributed to the members.

The docket was presented by the Stated Clerk, and read.

Letters were received from the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland; from the General Synod of Ulster, now merged in the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland; and from the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connection with the Church of Scotland; which were read and referred to the Committee of Correspondence to be hereafter appointed.

The annual report of the Directors of the Union Theological Seminary was presented, and put on the docket.

The Stated Clerk made a report respecting the publication of all the records of the Presbyterian Church, which was read and referred to Messrs. T. Smyth, McCartee, and Holmes.

And then the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock. Concluded with prayer.

Friday morning, May 21, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

It was resolved that the calling of the roll be omitted.

The Committee of Commissions reported the following additional Commissioners, who were enrolled—viz. Presbytery of Hudson, Wm. S. Little, ruling elder. Presbytery of Caledonia, David Harrower, bishop. Presbytery of Baltimore, Richard J. Cross, ruling elder. Presbytery of Redstone, Edgar C. Wilson, ruling elder. Presbytery of Beaver, B. C. Critchlow, bishop; Presbytery of New Lisbon, Wm. J. McCombs, bishop. Presbytery of Columbus, James Torbert, ruling elder. Presbytery of Wooster, John D. Hughes, bishop. Presbytery of Sangamon, James M. Dunnean, ruling elder. Presbytery of Orange, Robert Donnell, ruling elder. Presbytery of Concord, John M. Wilson, bishop. Presbytery of South Carolina, George W. Glenn, ruling elder. Presbytery of Florida, John Brown, D. D., bishop, Benjamin F. Whitner, ruling elder. Also, that Samuel Clark, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Charleston, is present without a commission; which case was referred to the Committee of Elections.

The Committee of Elections made a report which was adopted as follows—viz. that John A. Shearer, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of West Hanover, and Samuel Clark, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Charleston, be enrolled.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Moderator appointed the following standing committees, viz. :

On Bills and Overtures.—Messrs. Janeway, Blythe, Steel, Robertson, Harrison, Hill, Wm. Wilson, Finley, W. A. Bell, A. W. Mitchell.

Judicial Committee.—Messrs. McCartee, Herron, McWhir, Anderson, Gretter, Pigeon, MeJunkin, Kellogg, Gilliss, E. M. Donaldson.

On Leave of Absence.—Messrs. McCandless, G. W. Coons, McDowell, Stewart, W. G. Bell, W. M. Todd, Riddle.

On Milcage.—Messrs. Cross, J. B. Mitchell, A. Lawrence, Shields.

On Devotional Exercises.—Messrs. Chester, Barnes, Buist, W. Brown, S. Lawrence, Shepherd.

On the Narrative of the State of Religion.—Messrs. Blythe, Sloss, Graham, Monteith, Douglas, Stevenson.

On Foreign Correspondence.—Messrs. Winehester, E. D. Smith, T. Smyth, Burt, Dod.

On Synodical records, viz. :

Albany—Messrs. McCord, Delavan, Halliday, Copp.

New York—Messrs. Bartley, Eastman, Murray, Hendrickson.

New Jersey—Messrs. Mair, Sharon, Mack, Seely.

Philadelphia—Messrs. Woodbridge, Munson, Boyd, Caldwell.

Pittsburgh—Messrs. Dewing, Berry, Cory, Wade.

Ohio—Messrs. Kollock, McPhail, Holmes, Webster.

Cincinnati—Messrs. Sehenek, Leveridge, J. Todd, Head.

Indiana—Messrs. Olmstead, Lynch, Squire, Hamill.

Illinois—Messrs. Williamson, A. Smith, Titus, Fuller.

Missouri—Messrs. Neil, Bland, Aikman, Pattison.

Kentucky—Messrs. Porter, Magill, James Wilson, Buyers.

Virginia—Messrs. D. D. Clark, McKinney, Phifer, Witherow.

North Carolina—Messrs. Lewis, Melvain, Cooper, McClelland.

West Tennessee—Messrs. Boggs, McAbey, Alexander, Johnston.

South Carolina and Georgia—Messrs. Reynolds, Wells, Dowd, Shearer.

Alabama—Messrs. T. B. Clarke, Wallace, Kellar, Eggen.

Mississippi—Messrs. Galbreath, J. F. Coons, J. Brown, E. B. Donaldson.

The standing committees were directed to meet at the rising of the Assembly this morning, and afterward on their own adjournment.

A letter was received from the Rev. Dr. George Potts, resigning his place in the Committee on Psalmody. The resignation was accepted.

The Stated Clerk reported that the name of the Presbytery of St. Charles had been changed by the Synod of Missouri to that of Palmyra. Ordered that the same be entered upon the roll.

The annual report of the Board of Directors of the Western Theological Seminary was presented and read.

Also a letter from the Select and Common Councils of the city of Allegheny, requesting to know on what terms the grounds belonging to the Western Theological Seminary in that city can be purchased.

Which were referred to Messrs. J. Brown, Hughes, and J. M. Wilson.

The Permanent Clerk reported the complaint and appeal of the First church of Peoria; the complaint of members of the Presbytery of Raritan against a decision of the Synod of New Jersey; the complaint of T. B. Clarke and others against a decision of the Synod of Cincinnati; the complaint of B. Ward and others against a decision of the Presbytery of Redstone.

Which were referred to the Judicial Committee.

Messrs. Critchlow, McCombs, and Torbert were appointed a committee to designate the order in which the reports of the Assembly's Boards shall be received.

The Stated Clerk reported twenty-five copies of their printed minutes received from the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church; also one copy each of their printed minutes from the General Synod of Ulster, from the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, from the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, and from the General Convention of Vermont.

Ordered, That one copy of the minutes of the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church be transmitted to each of the Synods of this Church, and that the remainder of the aforesaid documents be placed among the archives of the Assembly.

The annual report of the Directors of the Union Theological Seminary was presented, read, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix.

The annual report of the Treasurer of the Trustees of the General Assembly was presented and read, and the Treasurer's book of accounts was presented and laid on the table.

Which were referred to Messrs. McCartee, Steel, Leveridge, J. B. Mitchell, and Cross.

A report was received from the committee appointed by the last Assembly to revise the articles of correspondence with the General Association of Connecticut, which was read and adopted as follows, viz. :

The committee appointed by the last General Assembly to revise the articles of correspondence between this General Assembly and the General Association of Connecticut, with a particular view of ascertaining whether the certificates given to ministers and candidates from the State of Connecticut shall not hereafter be required from the Pastoral Union, and not, as heretofore, from the General Association, respectfully report—

That they have deemed it sufficient for the purposes of their appointment to submit the two following facts, viz. :

I. The certificates of dismission granted by the particular Associations to ministers, etc., coming from Connecticut are, by the terms of our correspondence with the General Association, of equal validity, as to their *prima facie* claim to be honored by this Church, whether emanating from Associations composed of a majority of adherents to the New Haven School, or of a majority of the friends of the doctrines taught at East Windsor (which is under the control of the Pastoral Union). And by the very constitution of these Associations they must necessarily give the usual certificate of good standing to all persons alike, without reference to the place of their theological education or to the phases of their theological sentiments. There is no discrimination between such “shades of difference” as are known to prevail in Connecticut, and the documents thus granted contain no hint to enable us to conjecture whether the persons to whom they are given are of the orthodox faith or of the doctrine taught at New Haven.

The provision now existing among us, by which Presbyteries are enjoined to examine all persons applying for admission from other bodies, may be regarded as affording at least a partial protection against the introduction of New Havenism through this channel. And this provision would be neither more nor less necessary nor serviceable were the terms of correspondence abrogated or continued.

Although the “particular view” of the committee has been directed by the Assembly to this point, there is yet another involved in the terms of correspondence. That is the interchange of delegates between the General Association and the General Assembly. The committee do not see it necessary to recommend the abrogation of this provision. They are assured that the interchange is desired by the friends of sound theology in Connecticut, and that they would regret the interruption of it. They have uniformly, in the General Association, recognized, and even advocated the ecclesiastical rights and legitimacy of this Assembly, have urged the continuance of this interchange, and have succeeded, from year to year, in securing the appointment of delegates from the Association to this Assembly, notwithstanding the Assembly, for some years past, has omitted to make the reciprocal appointments. Moreover, the General Association did last year formally request the General Assembly to continue the correspondence, and have this year sent delegates to the Assembly, notwithstanding the Assembly, thus far, has not taken any notice of that request.

II. The Pastoral Union is not a body ecclesiastically organized for the purposes contemplated by the Assembly’s resolution appointing this committee. It is a voluntary association of ministers, who are members of the various particular Associations represented by the General Association, and its organization is for a specific purpose which is not only not inconsistent with their original relationship to the General Association, but does not require a separation from the General Association, which is the only recognized and distinct ecclesiastical representative of the Congregational churches

of Connecticut. The Pastoral Union, therefore, neither exercises the functions, nor deems it proper or necessary to do so, of licensing, ordaining or judging ministers, etc., and of course neither receives nor dismisses ministers, etc., in the sense contemplated by the Assembly. Those functions are performed solely by the regularly established ecclesiastical bodies—viz. the particular Associations to which the individual members of the Pastoral Union respectively belong. And therefore the Pastoral Union is incapable of being a party to such a correspondence as that which exists between the General Assembly and various other regularly organized and distinct ecclesiastical denominations, without being *ipso facto* placed in such a posture as would involve the Union in the necessity of licensing candidates and ordained ministers, which would be in effect to secede from the ecclesiastical establishment in Connecticut and to assume the position of a distinct and independent denomination.

(Signed) JOHN M. KREBS, *On behalf of Committee.*
Philadelphia, May 21, 1841.

On motion, the subject of electing delegates to corresponding bodies was referred to Messrs. McDowell, Buist, and Harrower.

On motion, the Presbyteries were called upon in their order to say what they had done in regard to the injunction of the last Assembly (*Minutes*, p. 286) respecting deacons. It appeared that to a considerable extent the Presbyteries had taken order on the subject.

Resolved, That the injunction be continued.

The committee to arrange the order for receiving the annual reports of the Assembly's Boards reported, recommending that they be received in the following order, viz.:

Board of Foreign Missions, on Tuesday next, at 10 o'clock A. M.

Board of Publication, on Wednesday next, at 10 o'clock A. M.

Board of Missions, on Thursday next, at 10 o'clock A. M.

Board of Education, on Friday next, at 10 o'clock A. M.

The report was adopted.

On motion, the Synodical records were called for, and put into the hands of the respective committees. And it was

Resolved, That the reception of the reports on Synodical records be the order of the day for Monday afternoon.

And then the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday morning, May 22, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Committee of Commissions reported the following additional Commissioners, who were enrolled—viz. James Wilson, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Newton, and A. W. Putnam, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Nashville; Bishop John H. Symmes, from the Presbytery of Troy; Bishop E. W. Putnam, from the Presbytery of Palestine; Bishop Junius B. King, from the Presbytery of South Alabama; also, Rev. William W. Andrews, from the General Association of Connecticut, and Rev. Asa Cummings, from the General Conference of Maine.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Judicial Committee reported as in order Judicial Business No. 1—viz. "The Complaint and Appeal of the First Church of Peoria."

Which was put on the docket.

Also, No. 4, "Documents from the Presbytery of Redstone," as not regularly before the Assembly.

Which was put on the docket.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overtures Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8.

Which were disposed of as follows, viz.:

No. 1. That a new Presbytery called Iowa, erected by the Synod of Illinois, be enrolled. Adopted.

No. 2. Overture from the Board of Foreign Missions, proposing that the Assistant Secretary of the Board be *ex-officio* a member of the Executive Committee; and concerning the formation of Presbyteries in foreign countries.

Which was put on the docket.

No. 3. The petition of the Presbytery of Michigan to be recognized (see *Minutes of Assembly*, A. D. 1840, page 145), and attached to the Synod of Indiana.

Adopted, and the Presbytery was enrolled.

No. 4. Petition from the Presbytery of the District of Columbia to be reunited to the Presbytery of Baltimore.

Which was put on the docket.

No. 5. Memorial from the Synod of Mississippi concerning the dividing-line between the Synods of Mississippi and Alabama.

Which was put on the docket.

No. 6. Overtures from the Synod of Indiana and the Presbytery of Richland on the subject of ordination.

Which was put on the docket.

No. 7. Application from the Synod of Pittsburgh for a division, and organization of a new Synod.

Which was put on the docket.

No. 8. An overture for the repeal of the resolution of the Assembly of 1837 making it imperative on the Presbyteries to examine all applicants for admission.

Which was put on the docket.

The committee further reported that certain papers had been put into their hands on the subject of slavery, which they deemed it expedient not to offer to the House; and they proposed that the same be returned to the persons from whom they came.

A motion was made that one or more of the papers be read.

After debate the previous question was called, and the motion was indefinitely postponed.

Mr. Steel then called for the reading as a point of order.

Mr. Dod objected to the reading.

After debate the previous question was called, and the whole matter was indefinitely postponed.

The Stated Clerk reported the credentials of the Rev. James Finley, a foreign minister, sent up by the Presbytery of New York.

Which were referred to Messrs. Curtis, Glenn, and Symmes.

A memorial was received from the elders of the church of Bluffton on the subject of missionary efforts in Indiana.

Which was read and referred to the Board of Missions.

A memorial was received from the Presbytery of Philadelphia on the subject of popery; which was referred to Messrs. T. Smyth, Kellar, Berry, Halliday, and Neill.

The committee on the devotional exercises made a report, which was adopted as follows, viz.:

That these exercises be held on Monday morning next at 10 o'clock, in the following order, viz.:

1. Invocation and reading the Scriptures by the Moderator ;
2. Psalmody, by Mr. Stevenson ;
3. Address, by Mr. Barnes ;
4. Prayer, by Mr. Cummings of Maine ;
5. Psalmody, by Mr. Steel ;
6. Address, by Mr. Calhoun of Connecticut ;
7. Prayer, by Dr. Herron ;
8. Doxology and Benediction, by Dr. Blythe.

The committee to whom was referred the report of the Stated Clerk on the publication of the records of the Supreme Judicatory of the Presbyterian Church reported a minute which was adopted as follows, viz. :

This Assembly learns with great pleasure that the Board of Publication have issued a volume containing the minutes of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, of the Synod of Philadelphia, of the Synod of New York, and of the Synod of New York and Philadelphia, and which thus forms a documentary history of the Presbyterian Church in these United States from its origin in 1706 to the formation of the General Assembly in 1788. These records, which have never before been published, which were in danger of being lost, and which were inaccessible to the Church at large, are now offered to all in a neat octavo volume of 548 pages and at a very low price. And as the entire expense of this publication has been incurred by the Board, and the continuance of the work, by the republication of the minutes of the General Assembly from its organization until the present time, depends upon the support given to the present undertaking, this Assembly would enjoin it upon all Synods and Presbyteries to take such order as may be most efficient in securing the sale of the present volume and the complete publication of the documentary annals of our Church.

Resolved further, That a copy of the present volume (six copies having been presented to the Assembly) be sent in the name of this body to each of those foreign ecclesiastical bodies with which it is in correspondence—to wit, the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, and, in addition, to the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church in this country.

Mr. T. Smyth offered a resolution respecting the use of the title of bishop ; which was referred to Messrs. Sloss, Berry, Janeway, Barnes, and S. Lawrence.

On motion, Overture No. 7 was taken up and considered, and it was

Resolved, That the petition of the Synod of Pittsburgh be granted ; and that a new Synod be erected, composed of the Presbyteries of Washington, Steubenville, St. Clairsville, and New Lisbon, to be denominated the Synod of Wheeling, which shall hold its first meeting in Steubenville on the third Tuesday of October next, at six o'clock P. M., and be opened with a sermon by the Rev. George M. Scott, or by Dr. Rea, as his alternate ; and in the absence of both, by the senior minister present, who shall also preside until a Moderator is chosen.

And then the Assembly adjourned until Monday morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday morning, May 24th, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Committee of Commissions reported the following additional Commissioners—viz. Bishop John W. Baker, from the Presbytery of Hopewell, and Ruling Elder John Gunby, from the Presbytery of Mississippi, who were enrolled ; also that Ruling Elder Peter Sken Smith, from the Presbytery of

Georgia, has presented a certificate from the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery; and that Ruling Elder John N. Bell, from the Presbytery of Winchester, is present without a commission; which cases were referred to the Committee of Elections.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

A memorial was received from the Presbytery of Washington, in support of the petition of the Synod of Pittsburgh for a division; which was laid on the table.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures reported Overtures Nos. 9 and 10—viz. No. 9 from the Presbytery of Baltimore, relating to a column for miscellaneous collections in the Assembly's statistical tables.

No. 10. From the Presbytery of Baltimore respecting a form of Confession by applicants for communion, and a directory for administering adult baptism.

Which were put on the docket.

The Committee of Elections reported in favor of enrolling the names of Ruling Elder Peter Sken Smith, of the Presbytery of Georgia, and Ruling Elder John N. Bell, from the Presbytery of Winchester. Adopted.

The Judicial Committee reported as in order Judicial Business No. 2—viz. the complaint of J. Kirkpatrick and others against a decision of the Synod of New Jersey; and No. 3—viz. A Complaint of T. B. Clark and others against a decision of the Synod of Cincinnati; which were put on the docket.

The committee to whom was referred the subject of electing delegates to corresponding bodies made a report, which was adopted, and is as follows, viz.:

The Committee on Correspondence with the several ecclesiastical bodies to which the Assembly, previous to the secession of a part of their body in 1838, sent delegates, report—

That in the year 1840, and again this year, the General Association of Connecticut sent delegates to the General Assembly. The committee recommend that agreeably to the original terms of correspondence this Assembly elect three delegates to attend the next meeting of the General Association of Connecticut, and that the delegates so elected propose to the General Association of Connecticut to reduce the number of delegates from each body to the other to two or one.

The committee further report that on a request from the General Conference of Maine the correspondence with that body was formally renewed by the General Assembly of 1840, which Assembly appointed a delegate to Maine, and that there is a delegate from that body in this Assembly. The committee recommend to the Assembly to elect a delegate to the next General Conference of the State of Maine.

The committee also report that they have learned that the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church at their meeting in June last appointed delegates to attend this Assembly: and they therefore recommend that two delegates, a minister and a ruling elder, be elected to attend the next General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church.

With respect to the other bodies formerly in correspondence with the General Assembly, inasmuch as they have not, since the year 1838, when a part of the Assembly seceded and constituted a new body, sent any delegates to the General Assembly, or any communication on the subject of correspondence, the committee recommend that no delegates be sent to these bodies, and that the Assembly consider the correspondence with them as having *de facto* terminated.

The delegates from Maine and Connecticut were introduced to the Assembly by the Moderator, and they were invited to take part in the deliberations of the House.

On motion of Dr. Blythe, it was

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to inquire if some method cannot be devised for more effectually supplying the destitute in our country with the gospel.

Messrs. Blythe, Duncan, and Whitner were appointed the committee.

The sixteenth annual report of the Trustees of the Theological Seminary at Princeton was presented, read, and referred to the Committee on the Treasurer's Accounts.

The hour having arrived for the order of the day, the Assembly engaged in the devotional exercises in the order prescribed. After which

The Moderator presented the request of the Rev. Mr. Bingham, of the Sandwich Islands' missions, for leave to address the Assembly. The request was granted, and Mr. Bingham was heard.

Whereupon it was unanimously

Resolved, That this General Assembly tender their unfeigned congratulations to Brother Bingham and his missionary associates on the good work which God has effected through their instrumentality, and that they hereby pledge their prayers to the Great Head of the Church that he would continue his favorable presence with them in their arduous and important work until all opposition shall be overcome and Christ shall be acknowledged King by every heart.

On motion of Dr. McDowell,

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to prepare a minute expressive of the sentiments of this House concerning the death of the late President of the United States, and the recommendation by his successor of a national fast in consequence of that event.

Messrs. McDowell, McPhail, and Barnes were appointed the committee.

The Moderator communicated the invitation of the American Sunday-School Union for the Assembly to attend their anniversary to-morrow afternoon.

The committee to whom were referred the credentials of the Rev. James Finley, a foreign minister, reported, recommending that the Presbytery of New York have liberty to receive him as a member.

The report was adopted,

On motion, Overture No. 5 was taken up and read, when it was referred to Messrs. Winchester, King, and A. W. Mitchell.

On motion, the election of delegates to corresponding bodies was made the order of the day for to-morrow afternoon. Nominations were made.

On motion, Overture No. 2 was taken up, and that part of the overture which proposes that the constitution of the Board of Foreign Missions be so altered as that the Assistant Secretary shall be, *ex-officio*, a member of the Executive Committee, was considered and laid on the table; and that part of the overture which respects the organization of Presbyteries in foreign lands was referred to Messrs. Winchester, Steel, and P. S. Smith.

And then the Assembly adjourned until this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday afternoon, 4 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Committee of Commissions reported that the Rev. Dr. Thomas De Witt is present as a delegate from the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church. The Moderator introduced Dr. De Witt to the House, and he was invited to take part in the deliberations.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The order of the day was taken up, and the committees on Synodical records severally reported; when

The records of the Synods of Albany, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Ohio, Missouri, Virginia, North Carolina, West Tennessee and Mississippi were approved.

The records of the Synod of New Jersey were approved, with the exceptions of one misspelled word and one grammatical inaccuracy (which are mere lapses), and will be found distinctly marked on pages 80 and 81.

It was moved to reconsider this vote. The motion was lost.

The committees on the records of the Synods of Indiana, Kentucky and Alabama reported that the records had not been put into their hands; and the committees were discharged; and these Synods were enjoined to send up their records next year.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the dispensation allowed to the Synods of Virginia and the Carolinas (by the Assembly of 1790) to send up attested copies of their records, instead of the records, be and it is hereby rescinded.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures reported Overtures Nos. 11 and 12—viz.:

No. 11. Relating to ordination, and permission to ordained ministers to resign their office.

No. 12. For a republication of the Digest.

Which were put on the docket.

On motion, Overture No. 4 was taken up, and it was

Resolved, That the line of separation between the Synod of Virginia and the Synod of Philadelphia be so altered as that the Presbytery of the District of Columbia shall be detached from the former and attached to the latter; and that the Presbytery of the District of Columbia be and it is hereby dissolved, and its ministers, churches, licentiates and candidates be attached to the Presbytery of Baltimore. And further, that the records of the Presbytery of the District of Columbia be put into the hands of the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Baltimore.

A letter was received from the Rev. Dr. Samuel Miller respecting his report to the last Assembly on measures for securing to the youth of our Church fuller advantages of Christian education than they have hitherto enjoyed.

Which was read and referred to Messrs. Harrison, Lewis, and J. N. Bell.

On motion, Overture No. 6 was taken up, read, and referred to Messrs. Cross, A. W. Mitchell, McJunkin, Leveridge, and Holmes.

On motion, Overture No. 8 was taken up and read, and after debate it was laid on the table.

And then the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock. Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday morning, May 25th, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Committee of Commissions reported additional Commissioners—viz. Bishop Daniel L. Gray, from the Presbytery of Clinton, and Ruling Elder William French, from the Presbytery of Vincennes, who were enrolled.

The minutes of the last session were read. It was moved to strike out the minute of the exceptions taken to the records of the Synod of New Jersey. The Moderator suggested that the motion was out of order, but he would put it to the House; which having been done, the motion was sustained with the exception of one *no*. The Moderator then declared the motion lost, as a minute regarding a fact could not be amended but by an unanimous vote of the House; and he suggested that the case could be reached only by a motion to reconsider the vote of yesterday by which the House refused to reconsider the vote adopting the report of the committee on the records of

the Synod of New Jersey. An appeal was taken from this decision, and the decision was sustained.

It was then moved to reconsider the vote of yesterday refusing to reconsider the vote taking exceptions to the records of the Synod of New Jersey. The motion prevailed. It was then moved to reconsider the vote taking the exceptions aforesaid. The motion prevailed.

The report of the committee on the records of the Synod of New Jersey was then reconsidered; it was moved to strike out the exceptions taken by the committee. The motion prevailed. And then the report of the committee as amended was adopted, and the records of the Synod of New Jersey were approved.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave to Mr. Anderson for the remainder of the sessions. Also to Mr. Chester for this day.

The committee on the records of the Synod of South Carolina reported; and the records were approved.

On motion, Overture No. 9 was taken up, and after debate it was laid on the table; and the House proceeded to the order of the day; when

The annual report of the Board of Foreign Missions was presented and read by their Corresponding Secretary. Addresses were made, and the report was referred to Messrs. Herron, Harrison, Halliday, Dewitt, and Peter Sken Smith.

On motion, Overture No. 9 was resumed; and it was

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk be directed to prepare the Statistical Report so as to make a separate column for miscellaneous contributions, as required by Overture No. 17, passed 1838 (*Minutes*, p. 31). Also that the Stated Clerk have liberty, at his discretion, to omit columns of cents in the Statistical Tables.

On motion, Overture No. 10 was taken up, and referred to Messrs. Herron, Olmstead, Barnes, Hill, and J. M. Wilson, who were instructed to report to this Assembly.

And then the Assembly adjourned until this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday afternoon, 4 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 13—viz. from the Synod of Virginia; which was adopted as follows, viz.

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk of each Synod be required to mention in his report to the General Assembly the time and place of the next meeting of his Synod, and that the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly causes the time and place of such meetings to be published in the Appendix to the *Minutes* of the Assembly.

An invitation was received from the Inspectors of the Eastern State Penitentiary for the members of the Assembly to visit that institution.

Which was accepted for Saturday afternoon at 4 o'clock.

The order of the day was taken up—viz. the election of delegates to corresponding bodies; and Messrs. Stewart, Gilliss, and Donnell were appointed a committee to receive and count the ballots and to report the result.

On motion, Overture No. 11 was taken up, and referred to Messrs. McIlvain, Baker, Bland, Woodbridge, and Bartley.

The committee on Overture No. 2 made the following report, which was adopted, viz.

The committee to whom was referred the Overture of the Board of Foreign Missions relative to the formation of Presbyteries in heathen lands, report—That the General Assembly of 1838 expressed it as their judgment that our foreign missionaries ought, if circumstances permit them, to organize themselves into Presbyteries, and your committee, believing that the usefulness of the missionaries would be greatly increased by such a measure, recommend to this Assembly for their adoption the following resolutions, viz. :

1. *Resolved*, That the Rev. Messrs. Henry R. Wilson, Jr., of the Presbytery of Carlisle, in the Synod of Philadelphia; James L. Scott, of the Presbytery of Newcastle, in the Synod of Philadelphia; William H. McAuley of the Presbytery of New Brunswick, in the Synod of New Jersey; John C. Rankin, of the Presbytery of Orange, in the Synod of North Carolina—be, and they hereby are organized into a Presbytery to be known as the Presbytery of *Furrukabad*.

2. That the Rev. Messrs. James Wilson, of the Presbytery of Hudson, in the Synod of New York; John H. Morrison, of the Presbytery of New York, in the Synod of New York; Joseph Warren, of the Presbytery of Ohio, in the Synod of Pittsburgh; John E. Freeman, of the Presbytery of Elizabethtown, in the Synod of New Jersey; Joseph Owen, of the Presbytery of Bedford, in the Synod of New York—be, and they hereby are organized into a Presbytery to be known as the Presbytery of *Allahabad*.

3. That these two Presbyteries be required to meet at such times and places as the interests of the mission seem to require, and then and there to constitute as Presbyteries agreeably to this action of the General Assembly, and that the eldest minister in each Presbytery, who is present, preach the opening sermon and preside until a Moderator be chosen; and that they report their proceedings to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

4. That these two Presbyteries now organized, together with the Presbytery of Lodiana, which is hereby detached from the Synod of New York, be and they are hereby erected into a Synod, to be known as the Synod of Northern India, in connection with the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America; and that said Synod meet and constitute at such time and place as the circumstances and interests of the mission may suggest, and that the opening sermon be preached by the eldest minister present, who shall preside until a Moderator be chosen.

5. That by this procedure this Assembly has no intention to question the right of these brethren, now removed providentially out of our bounds, to organize themselves, if they prefer it, into Presbyteries, according to the views expressed by the Assembly of 1838.

The committee to whom were referred the annual report of the Directors of the Western Theological Seminary, and the Overture from the Select and Common Councils of the city of Allegheny, made a report, recommending—1st, that the plan of the Seminary be so altered that there shall be but one session and one vacation, after the manner that now prevails in the Theological Seminary at Princeton, leaving the special time of beginning and closing the vacations to the Board of Directors; which was referred to the next General Assembly.

Also recommending, 2d, that the Trustees of the Seminary have leave to lease or sell such portion of the grounds as the Directors shall deem proper. This part of the report was recommitted to the committee.

The committee to receive and count the ballots for delegates to corresponding bodies reported, when it appeared that the following were elected, viz. :

To the General Association of Connecticut.—Bishops William Neill, D. D., Nathaniel S. Prime, and Jacob Green.

To the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church.—Bishop John M. Krebs, and Ruling Elder Ananias Platt.

To the General Conference of Maine.—Bishop Francis McFarland, D. D.

The committee to whom was referred the annual report of the Board of Foreign Missions, made a report, which was adopted, and is as follows, viz. :

1. *Resolved*, That the report be approved, and referred to the Board for publication.

2. The General Assembly recognize it as a duty and the privilege of every professing Christian to pray for the spread of the Redeemer's kingdom, and to contribute of his substance for that great object as God in his providence has prospered him.

3. The General Assembly are deeply grieved to learn from the report of the Board that for the last year not one-half of the churches enjoying the stated means of grace have contributed anything in support of this cause; and they would affectionately call upon those churches and the ministers placed over them, and also the vacant churches, no longer to stand at a distance, but to join the other churches and ministers in sending to the benighted heathen the knowledge of the Saviour's love and mercy.

4. With the blessing of God, all that is wanted to ensure a sufficiency of the necessary funds is united and systematic action on the part of the whole church; and when every member is brought to contribute statedly there will no longer be embarrassment for the want of means.

5. The General Assembly would earnestly and solemnly call upon all their ministers to bring this subject frequently before their people in the public prayers in the house of God and in the other stated ministrations in the sanctuary. And especially would they urge upon ministers and people the deep importance of the monthly concert, and that collections be then taken up to sustain the brethren in the foreign field, for whose success their prayers have been offered. In this connection the General Assembly would again call the attention of the churches to the *Missionary Chronicle*. No head of a family is doing his duty to his children whilst he withholds from them the knowledge of the condition of the perishing heathen, and what the Church is doing for their salvation; and how can a Christian pray with an understanding for his brethren among the heathen while he neglects to inform himself of their trials and their wants?

6. In the midst of much that calls for deep humility and self-abasement in the sight of God, there is much cause of thanksgiving and many grounds of encouragement for continued and enlarged effort on the part of the Church. And whilst we mourn over our unfaithfulness the General Assembly would, with gratitude, acknowledge the many evidences of the presence of the Spirit of God in the midst of our beloved branch of his Church.

7. The General Assembly would recognize, with affectionate regard, all their missionaries among the heathen as laborers with them in the Saviour's vineyard; and they would exhort these dear brethren to diligence and perseverance in the work of the Lord; to yield to no discouragements, but by faith and prayer seek for the sustaining influence of the Saviour's presence and the consolations of the Holy Spirit; to be instant in season, out of season, rightly dividing the word of truth, in meekness instructing those that oppose themselves, if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; that they bear one another's burdens and be careful to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bonds of peace among themselves. And whilst we assure these brethren of an interest in our prayers, we ask them to pray for us, that God would revive his work among the churches of their native land.

On motion, nominations of persons to fill vacancies in the Board of Foreign

Missions were made, and the election was made the order of the day for to-morrow afternoon.

On motion, Judicial Business No. 2 was made the second order of the day for to-morrow morning.

On motion of Mr. J. B. Mitchell, it was

Resolved, That in making Presbyterian reports to the General Assembly of funds raised for the various objects to be named in the Statistical Reports the Presbyteries be, and they are hereby, directed to report such sums only as have been actually paid.

And then the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday morning, May 26th, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

A report was received from the Standing Committee on Psalmody, which was read, and referred to Messrs. Steel, Burt, E. D. Smith, Jas. Wilson (of Newton), and Kellogg.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave for the remainder of the sessions to Messrs. A. W. Putnam and Hendrickson.

The committee to whom was referred Dr. Miller's letter respecting his report on the Christian education of our youth, made the following report, which was adopted, viz. :

That they have examined the report prepared by Dr. Miller and others on this subject, under the direction of the General Assembly of 1839, and which has been published by the Board of Publication, to whom it was referred by the last Assembly; that they present it to this Assembly as their report, and recommend that it be adopted and sent down to churches under the care of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, with their approval.

The committee to whom was referred the resolution of Mr. T. Smyth respecting the use of the title of bishop, made a report, which was read and laid on the table.

The hour having arrived, the Assembly proceeded to the order of the day, when the annual report of the Board of Publication was presented and read by their Corresponding Secretary. Addresses were made, and the report was referred to Messrs. Sloss, Schenck, Alexander, E. M. Donaldson, and Andrews.

The Assembly then proceeded to the second order of the day—viz. Judicial Business No. 2, and being about to sit in a judicial capacity, the Moderator read the 39th rule of order, reminding the members of the judicatory of their high character as a court of Jesus Christ, and of the solemn duty in which they were about to act.

The decision of the Synod of New Jersey, of which J. Kirkpatrick and others complain, was read, together with the complainants' reasons of complaint. The records of the Synod in the case were read, and it was moved to read a paper which was not before the Synod, but was admitted by the parties to be an original paper. After debate, it was moved to remit the whole case to the Synod of New Jersey, with an injunction to send up a complete record; and, pending the motion, the court rose;

And then the Assembly adjourned until this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday afternoon, 4 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Moderator informed the Assembly that the Rev. Samuel Williams, a delegate from the General Association of Massachusetts, is present.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the resolution adopted on Monday last declaring the correspondence with certain other bodies in this country to be at an end be reconsidered in so far as it relates to the General Association of Massachusetts.

The Assembly then, *Resolved* to lay that part of the aforesaid resolution on the table, and to invite Mr. Williams to sit and to partake in the deliberations of the house.

The Rev. Dr. De Witt gave notice that he must necessarily leave for the purpose of returning home, and assured the Assembly of the friendly regards of the Church from which he came. To which a reply was made by the Moderator.

On motion, the Rev. Dr. Cornelius C. Cuyler was appointed alternate to Mr. Krebs, delegate to the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day—viz. the election of persons to fill vacancies in the Board of Foreign Missions. Messrs. Halliday, S. Lawrence, and Hill were appointed a committee to receive and count the ballots and report the result.

The committee on the report of the Standing Committee on Psalmody reported; and it was

Resolved, That the committee be continued, with the addition of the Rev. Messrs. William M. Engles, D. D., and John M. Krebs; that the committee shall be authorized, at their discretion, to print an edition so soon as they shall be prepared; and that their present report be printed in the Appendix to the *Minutes*.

The committee to receive and count the ballots for persons to fill vacancies in the Board of Foreign Missions reported, when it appeared that the following were elected, viz.:

For Four Years.

BISHOPS.

Daniel M'Kinley,
J. B. Patterson,
William S. Plumer, D. D.,
George Potts, D. D.,
James L. Sloss,
Edward D. Smith,
Thomas Smyth,
Gardiner Spring, D. D.,
Elisha P. Swift, D. D.,
William D. Snodgrass, D. D.,
Andrew Todd,
Joshua L. Wilson, D. D.,
John Witherspoon, D. D.,
John C. Lowrie,
John Gray.

RULING ELDERS.

William Maxwell,
James Meek,
James P. Sanderson,
A. W. Mitchell,
James Paton,
Ananias Platt,
Thomas Pringle,
Gilbert T. Snowden,
Alexander Symington,
Samuel Thompson,
Charles S. Todd,
Robert Wallace,
John Woodhull,
Samuel Winfree,
Robert L. Stuart.

For One Year.

Peyton Harrison.

For Two Years.

Willis Lord.

On motion, the Assembly then sat in a judicial capacity, and resumed Judicial Business No. 2.

The motion to remit the case to the Synod of New Jersey was withdrawn ; when it was agreed by the court that the paper offered this morning be read, which was done. The remaining documents in the case were read, when the court rose.

The annual report of the Trustees of the General Assembly was presented, read, and referred to the Committee on the Treasurer's accounts ;

And then the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday morning, May 27th, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last two sessions were read and approved.

On motion, the resolution declaring the correspondence with certain other bodies in this country to be at an end was reconsidered, and repealed in so far as relates to the General Association of Massachusetts.

On motion, the Rev. Messrs. William Neill, D. D., and Jacob Green were appointed delegates to the next meeting of the General Association of Massachusetts.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave to Mr. Hamill for this day, and to Mr. Donnell for the remainder of the sessions.

The Committee on the Narrative made a report, which was read and laid on the table.

The committee on the annual report of the Board of Publication made a report which was read and laid on the table.

The hour having arrived, the Assembly proceeded to the order of the day ; when the annual report of the Board of Missions was read by their Corresponding Secretary. Addresses were made, and the report was on motion referred to a committee to consist of one member from each Synod. The following were appointed the committee—viz.: Messrs. Whitner, King, Gray, Cooper, A. Smith, Stevenson, G. W. Coons, W. G. Bell, Duncan, Stewart, T. B. Clarke, Shepherd, Reynolds, McKinney, Kollock, Copp, and Munson.

On motion, Messrs. John Brown, Barnes, and Winchester were added to the committee on Dr. Blythe's motion concerning the better supply of the destitute in our country with the gospel.

The Moderator communicated a copy of the minutes of the General Convention of Vermont of 1839, by which it appears that that body voted to invite this Assembly to continue the correspondence between the two bodies. Which was referred to the Committee on Domestic Correspondence.

And then the Assembly adjourned until this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday afternoon, 4 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

On motion, nominations were made for persons to fill vacancies in the Board of Missions, and the election was made the order of the day for to-morrow afternoon.

The Committee on the Treasurer's Accounts and on the reports of the Trustees of the General Assembly and of the Trustees of the Theological Seminary at Princeton, made a report ; which was read and laid on the table.

The Committee on Overture No. 6 made a report, which was read and laid on the table.

The committee appointed to prepare a minute expressive of the sentiments

of this House concerning the death of the late President of the United States, and the recommendation by his successor of a national fast in consequence of that event, made a report which was unanimously adopted as follows, viz.:

Whereas, it has pleased the sovereign Ruler of nations, in his infinite wisdom and righteousness, to remove by death William Henry Harrison, President of the United States; and whereas, there are circumstances connected with this event which render the dispensation peculiarly marked, instructive, and afflicting; it being the first instance since the adoption of the Federal Constitution, more than fifty years since, that a President has died in office, and his death having occurred suddenly and in one month after his inauguration; the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, convened in the city of Philadelphia, feel themselves called to give a united and public expression of their sentiments in view of this solemn dispensation; therefore,

Resolved, 1. That we recognize the providence of God as clearly manifested in this event, and we call upon the people connected with our Church also to see and acknowledge his hand; and while we desire to bow with submission to his righteous will, we feel the event to be a great national bereavement.

2. That we feel this bereavement to be the greater when we consider the repeated acknowledgments made by the illustrious deceased, in his inaugural address, of the providence of God and his dependence on the Most High to enable him to discharge the duties of his station; and especially the explicit and noble declaration he made in that address of his profound reverence for the CHRISTIAN RELIGION, and his thorough conviction that sound morals, religious liberty, and a just sense of religious responsibility are essentially connected with all true and lasting happiness; and also the sacred regard he manifested in his high station for the holy Sabbath, inspiring the hope that under his administration, so commenced, a salutary influence in favor of good morals and the institutions of religion, vitally important to the best interests of our country, would be diffused throughout the land.

3. That we view this dispensation as a solemn rebuke to this nation for their sins; and a solemn call to all, rulers and people, to feel and acknowledge that the Lord reigns, and seriously to inquire wherefore it is that he has thus contended with us, and to repent and reform.

4. That we sympathize with the bereaved widow and family of our deceased President, and pray that the Lord will be to them the widow's God and the Father of the fatherless.

5. That, while we mourn the loss the nation has sustained in the death of our late President, we rejoice and thank the Lord that his successor, John Tyler, placed over this nation in a very special manner by his providence, has acknowledged this providence, and was led promptly to recommend a day of *fasting and prayer* throughout the nation; and we rejoice in the general and hearty response with which this recommendation was received, and the solemn manner in which, as far as we have heard, the day was observed. We fondly hope that this is an indication of good to our nation; and we pray that the Lord will overrule the painful bereavement with which we have been visited for the promotion of the best interests of our beloved country.

6. That our ministers and people be, and they hereby are, earnestly exhorted particularly and constantly, agreeably to the injunctions of the word of God, to remember our civil rulers in their prayers.

7. That a copy of this minute, signed by the Moderator and Permanent Clerk, be transmitted to the widow and family of the late President, and also a copy to the present President of the United States.

On motion,

The Assembly then sat in a judicial capacity, and resumed Judicial Business No. 2. The Moderator suggested that the case having been pursued in the order of appeals, the original parties would now be heard. Mr. A. Smith moved a resolution that the original parties now before the General Assembly are the complainants J. Kirkpatrick and others and the Synod of New Jersey. After debate, the previous question was called, and the resolution was lost. Mr. M'Phail moved a resolution that in the contemplation of the Book of Discipline, J. Kirkpatrick and others on the one hand, and the Synod of New Jersey on the other, being the parties to this complaint, are the parties to be heard at the bar. And pending the motion, the court rose;

And then the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday morning, May 28th, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Mr. Wm. Brown presented the credentials of the Rev. John Skinner, a foreign minister, sent up by the Presbytery of Lexington; which were referred to Messrs. W. Brown, Curtis, and Shearer.

Dr. Neill offered a resolution respecting the right of petition; which was read and laid on the table.

The annual report of the Directors of the Theological Seminary at Princeton was presented and read; and the report (with the exception of that part of it which recites the vacancies in the Board) was referred to Messrs. Harrison, Buist, MeAboy, Stuart, and Webster.

On motion, the nomination of persons to fill vacancies in the Board of Directors of the Princeton Theological Seminary was made the second order of the day for this afternoon; and the election was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning.

Dr. John McDowell, from the committee appointed by the last Assembly (*Minutes*, p. 138) to provide means to supply the deficiency in the current income from the permanent funds, made a report; which was read, and referred to the committee to whom was referred the report of the Directors of the Princeton Seminary.

The committee on the memorial of the Presbytery of Philadelphia on the subject of popery made a report, which was adopted as follows, viz.:

1. *Resolved*, That a preacher be appointed to deliver a discourse before the next Assembly on some given topic connected with the controversy between Romanists and Protestants.

2. *Resolved*, That this Assembly most earnestly recommend to the bishops of the several congregations under our care, both from the pulpit and through the press, boldly though temperately to explain and defend the doctrines and principles of the Reformation, and to point out and expose the errors and superstitions of popery.

3. *Resolved*, That as the most effectual antidote not only against papal but all other forms of error, it be solemnly enjoined upon all the bishops and elders of the several churches, as also upon our evangelists in the domestic and foreign fields, diligently and statedly to engage in the instruction of the people, and especially of children and youth, in the Confession of Faith and Catechisms of our Church.

4. *Resolved*, That this Assembly solemnly and affectionately warn all our people of the danger and impropriety of supporting or in any manner directly or indirectly patronizing or encouraging popish schools and seminaries.

5. *Resolved*, That this Assembly recommend to the special attention of all our people the works on the Reformation and popery which have been issued by the Board of Publication.

6. *Resolved*, That the delegates of the several Presbyteries be called on at the next meeting of Assembly to report what has been done in compliance with these resolutions.

The committee that reported the foregoing resolutions were instructed to nominate a preacher and a subject, as provided by the first resolution.

On motion of Mr. Sloss, it was

Resolved, That two brethren be requested to preach on the subject of popery at such times during the current sessions of the Assembly as shall not be occupied with the ordinary business.

The Rev. Messrs. Henry A. Boardman, and Robert J. Breekinridge, D. D., were elected for the aforesaid exercises.

The committee on Overture No. 10—viz. relative to a directory for the admission of persons to the Church on a public profession of their faith, and also on the administration of adult baptism, made a report, which was adopted, as follows, viz.:

That inasmuch as there is a diversity of opinion and practice—*first*, on the propriety of such a form, and *secondly*, on the mode of such admission—the whole subject be referred to a select committee, who shall carefully examine the whole subject and mature such directory, in case they should think it expedient and desirable, and report to the next General Assembly.

The Moderator appointed the committee as aforesaid—viz. Rev. Samuel Miller, D. D., Joseph McElroy, D. D., John C. Backus, Henry A. Boardman, to whom the Assembly added the Rev. Robert J. Breekinridge, D. D.

The committee on Overture No. 11 made a report, which was read and laid on the table.

The hour having arrived, the Assembly proceeded to the order of the day; when the annual report of the Board of Education was presented, and read by their Corresponding Secretary. And it was referred to Messrs. Neill, Alexander, Harrison, P. S. Smith, and McCord.

And, on motion, the Assembly *Resolved*, to engage in prayer to the Lord of the harvest for an increase of laborers; which having been attended to,

On motion, that portion of the report of the committee on the annual report of the Board of Publication which refers to nominations of persons to fill vacancies in the Board of Publication was taken up, and the election was made the third order of the day for this afternoon.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave to Messrs. Buyers, Cooper, Monteith, Finley, and, after this day, to Mr. Leve-ridge, for the remainder of the sessions.

On motion of Mr. McCord,

Resolved, That the General Assembly continue its recommendation to all the churches under their care for the observance of the first Sabbath in January next, found on the printed *Minutes* of last year, page 134.

On motion,

The Assembly then sat in a judicial capacity, and resumed judicial business No. 2. And the resolution offered yesterday by Mr. McPhail was adopted.

And it was further

Resolved, That the Rev. Messrs. James Scott and John W. Yeomans, of the Synod of New Jersey, be admitted as the representatives of the Synod.

Mr. Kirkpatrick was then heard; Mr. Scott was heard for the defendants in part; and

The court rose.

And then the Assembly adjourned until this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday afternoon, 4 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The orders of the day were called up,

When Messrs. A. Smith, T. B. Clarke, and Kollock were appointed a committee to collect the ballots for persons to fill vacancies in the Board of Missions, and to report the result. And

Messrs. Barnes, Berry, and Symmes were appointed a committee to collect the ballots for persons to fill vacancies in the Board of Publication, and to report the result. And

Nominations were made of persons to fill vacancies in the Board of Directors in the Theological Seminary at Princeton, and on motion of Dr. McDowell, it was

Resolved, That in the election for Directors of the Seminary the seven ministers having the highest number of votes be declared elected for three years, and the minister having the next highest number be declared elected for one year in the place of Rev. E. W. Crane, deceased.

The committee to collect the ballots for persons to fill vacancies in the Board of Missions reported, when it appeared that the following were elected, viz.:

For Four Years.

BISHOPS.

John McDowell, D. D.,
Wm. L. Breekinridge,
Wm. A. McDowell, D. D.,
John Breekinridge, D. D.,
Thomas L. Janeway,
George Potts, D. D.,
Samuel G. Winchester,
Shepard K. Kollock,
Joshua L. Wilson, D. D.,
Alexander Macklin.

LAYMEN.

Wm. Dulty,
A. W. Mitchell,
Wm. Brown,
Wm. Maxwell,
Stephen Colwell,
Archibald McIntyre.

For Three Years.

William D. Snodgrass, D. D.

For One Year.

Jacob J. Janeway, D. D.

The committee to collect the ballots for persons to fill vacancies in the Board of Publication reported, when it appeared that the following were elected, viz.:

For Four Years.

BISHOPS.

Henry R. Wilson,
Nicholas Murray,
Samuel Miller, D. D.,
Joshua Moore,
G. W. Musgrave,
W. C. Mathews,
J. W. McKennan,
James Morrison,
Wm. McPheeters, D. D.,

LAYMEN.

Saml. Mollyneaux,
J. B. Martin,
R. H. McEwen,
R. H. McNair,
M. Newkirk,
Ananias Platt,
J. W. Platt,
Geo. Douglas,
James Russell,

BISHOPS.

H. A. Boardman,
J. C. Backus,
J. Breckinridge, D. D.,
Thos. L. Janeway.

LAYMEN.

Charles Collins,
James N. Dickson,
Wm. Dulty,
W. A. G. Posey.

For Three Years.

James Dunlap.

For One Year.

Willis Lord.

On motion, the Assembly proceeded to appoint a place for the meeting of the next General Assembly. Nominations were made; and it was

Resolved, That of the places nominated, if no place should have a majority of all the voices, the question shall then be taken upon the two places having the highest number, of which places that one having the higher number of voices shall be appointed.

The roll was called, and a majority of all the voices being given for Philadelphia, it was

Resolved, That the next General Assembly shall be held in this city.

The committee on the report of the Directors of the Western Theological Seminary, and upon the Overture from the Select and Common Councils of the city of Allegheny made a report; which was read and laid on the table.

On motion, the Assembly then sat in a judicial capacity and resumed judicial business No. 2. Mr. Scott was heard in full; Mr. Yeomans, also, for the defendants, was heard; and then Mr. Studdiford was heard for the prosecution. These parties being fully heard, the Moderator announced that the parties next to be heard are the members of the majority and minority of the Synod. Mr. Kollock took an appeal, which was put, and the Moderator's decision was sustained. Then the court rose.

And then the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday morning, May 29th, 1841.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee of Commissions reported an additional Commissioner, who was enrolled—viz. Bishop William H. Williams, from the Presbytery of Tuscaloosa.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they have given leave to Messrs. Delavan, Mair, Squire, Fuller, Wade, Wallace, Seely, Titus, Aikman, Boyd, and Reynolds for the remaining sessions.

A communication was received from the Stated Clerk, stating that the Synod of Mississippi have erected a new Presbytery called the Indian Presbytery, and asking directions as to the insertion in the statistical tables of the statistical report from the Presbytery of the District of Columbia.

Which was referred to the Committee of Bills and Overtures.

A letter was received from the Rev. Henry A. Boardman, informing the Assembly that, in accordance with their appointment, he would preach a sermon on the evening of the coming Sabbath in the Tenth Presbyterian Church in this city.

The Committee on Domestic Correspondence, to whom was committed a copy of the printed minutes of the General Convention of Vermont, con-

vened August, 1839, reported that they had found in the minutes the following resolution—viz. “Voted that the Convention invite a correspondence with the Assembly of which the Rev. Dr. Wilson was the last Moderator, and that the Register be directed to communicate this vote.” The committee recommended to the Assembly the adoption of the following resolution, viz.:

Resolved, That agreeably to the above invitation of the General Convention of Vermont, the Assembly will correspond with that body by delegation as formerly.

The resolution was adopted.

And, on motion,

The Assembly proceeded to elect a delegate to the next General Convention of Vermont. The Rev. William D. Snodgrass, D. D., was elected.

On motion, the Rev. Nathaniel S. Prime was appointed alternate to either of the delegates to the General Association of Massachusetts who may fail to attend.

The committee on the annual report of the Board of Education made a report, which was read and laid on the table.

The committee on Overture No. 5 made a report which was amended, and adopted as follows, viz.:

That inasmuch as the constitutional organization of the Synod of Alabama would be affected by the change proposed in the memorial, it is inexpedient to grant the request of the memorialists at the present time; therefore

Resolved, That the question be sent down to the Synods of Alabama and Mississippi (to be answered at the next meeting of the General Assembly) whether it is expedient so to alter the line dividing those Synods that it shall in future be the same with the State line? and if deemed expedient by *both* Synods, that the Synod of Alabama make such an arrangement of its Presbyterial boundaries that its constitutional organization will not be affected by the change.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day—viz. the election of persons to fill vacancies in the Board of Directors of the Theological Seminary at Princeton. Messrs. Robertson, Joseph Brown, and Sloss were appointed a committee to collect the ballots and report the result.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures, to whom was referred the report of the Stated Clerk in regard to the Indian Presbytery, made the following report, which was adopted, viz.:

That they have found on the minutes of the Synod of Mississippi that they have given directions for the organization of said Presbytery in April last; but they have no information of the actual organization of said Presbytery. They therefore conclude that it would, in these circumstances, be improper to insert the name of this Presbytery in the list of Presbyteries, and that no Presbytery should be recognized as forming a constituent part of the Presbyterian Church until the General Assembly shall have received due information of its actual organization, agreeably to constitutional rule.

(Signed)

JACOB J. JANEWAY, *Chairman*.

The committee on the annual report of the Directors of the Theological Seminary at Princeton made the following report, which was unanimously adopted, viz.:

1st. They recommend that the General Assembly amend the plan of the Seminary, Article II., Section 1, so as to make it correspond with the amendment made by the last General Assembly, authorizing the Board of Directors to have only one vacation during the year, as follows—viz. “The Board of Directors shall meet statedly, once in each year at the close of the session,

and oftener on their own adjournment." The remainder of the section as it now is.

2d. Your committee have anxiously considered the pecuniary embarrassments of the Seminary, arising from an anticipated deficiency in the funds of the Assembly, amounting to upwards of \$4000 during the current year, and have earnestly desired to devise some efficient mode by which the anticipated deficiency might be supplied.

They have seriously weighed the objection of the committee to whose management this subject was committed by the last Assembly; and while they doubt not that those judicious brethren met with difficulties in the execution of their arduous duties which do not appear to this committee, they nevertheless feel constrained, for lack of a better, to recommend the adoption of the same plan which was pursued with a good degree of (though not with complete) success the last year.

They, therefore, recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That a committee be appointed, whose duty it shall be to apportion the deficiency aforesaid among the churches belonging to the Synods of Albany, New York, New Jersey, and Philadelphia, and to call upon the said churches (either by an agent or in any other manner that to the said committee may seem fit) for such proportions of said deficiency as, in the judgment of said committee, they ought severally to contribute.

P. HARRISON, *Chairman*.

On motion, Messrs. John McDowell, Henry A. Boardman, Matthew Newkirk, Alexander W. Mitchell, and James N. Dickson, were appointed the aforesaid committee; who were instructed to report to the next General Assembly.

On motion of Dr. McCartee,

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to procure a church in which the Rev. Dr. Robert J. Breckinridge shall preach the sermon on popery, as directed by this Assembly; and that the time of preaching be Tuesday evening next.

Messrs. McCartee, Williamson, and Janeway were appointed the aforesaid committee.

The committee to nominate a preacher and a theme for the annual sermon before the next Assembly upon the subject of popery made a report, which was adopted, viz.:

That the Rev. Robert J. Breckinridge, D. D., be the preacher; and in case of his failure, then the Rev. Henry A. Boardman; and that the subject be "What is the rule of faith?"

The Assembly then sat in a judicial capacity, and resumed judicial business No. 2.

Mr. Dod announced that the members both of the majority and minority of the Synod of New Jersey have conferred together, and agreed that it shall be entered that they have already been fully heard.

The members of the Synod of New Jersey then withdrew, and the roll was called for the opinions of the members.

After which the Moderator suggested that the next step would be to take the question, "Whether the complaint were well founded?"

Dr. Janeway moved, "That the complaint be dismissed, and that the decision of the Synod be sustained."

To which Mr. Stevenson moved as an amendment, "That the complaint is not well founded, and the decision of the Synod be confirmed."

When Mr. McPhail moved as a substitute, "That in order to obtain the

sense of the House, the Moderator do now put the question, 'Shall the complaint be sustained or not?'"

Mr. McPhail's motion prevailed, and the question being put,

"Shall the complaint be sustained or not?" it was decided in the negative. So the court refused to sustain the complaint.

Dr. McDowell then moved that the complaint be dismissed, and that the decision of the Synod be sustained.

Which motion was laid on the table, on the ground that the case is finished.

And then the court rose.

The committee to collect the ballots for persons to fill vacancies in the Board of Directors of the Theological Seminary at Princeton reported; when it appeared that the following were elected, viz.:

For Three Years.

BISHOPS.

Ashbel Green, D. D.,
John M. Krebs,
Jacob J. Janeway, D. D.,
Henry A. Boardman,
Nicholas Murray,
John C. Backus,
William W. Phillips, D. D.

RULING ELDERS.

James Lenox,
Alexander Henry,
Moses Allen.

For One Year.

John Johnston.

The Committee on Mileage made a report as follows, viz.:

That there has been paid to the Treasurer, on account of the Commissioners' Fund, the sum of five hundred and ninety-three dollars thirty cents; that there is an old balance against this fund of one hundred and eighty-six dollars fourteen cents; leaving the balance of four hundred and seven dollars sixteen cents to be divided. That there have been nine thousand three hundred and sixty miles traveled by the Commissioners who claim mileage in coming to the present Assembly, which, at four cents and three and one-half mills per mile, will exhaust the balance as above, and balance the account of the Commissioners' Fund to this date. They therefore recommend that the Trustees of the General Assembly be directed to draw an order on their Treasurer for the said sum of four hundred and seven dollars sixteen cents.

(Signed)

R. J. Cross, *Chairman*.

The above report was adopted.

On motion, so much of the report of the committee on the annual report of the Board of Education as relates to nominations was taken up; and the election was made the order of the day for Monday morning.

On motion, the report of the Committee on the Treasurer's Accounts was taken up, and made the second order for Monday morning.

On motion, the report of the Committee on the annual report of the Western Theological Seminary was taken up, and recommitted.

And then the Assembly adjourned till Monday morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday morning, May 31st, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and the Moderator being absent, Dr. Janeway, the last

Moderator present, was requested to take the chair; which he did, and opened the session with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave to Messrs. P. S. Smith, Symmes, E. C. Wilson, Copp, Shearer, and Pattison.

The committee to whom was referred the annual report of the Directors of the Western Theological Seminary, together with the communication from the Select and Common Councils of the city of Allegheny, made a report, which was adopted, as follows, viz.:

Whereas, the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, with the concurrence of the lot-holders of the city of Allegheny, have, by their act of the 27th April, 1827, granted to John Brown, John Hannen, and Hugh Davis, in trust for the use, occupation, and benefit of the Western Theological Seminary, about eighteen acres of ground, upon which said seminary is now erected; and whereas, great advantages may result to said institution from a prudent appropriation of the ground so as to secure a revenue; therefore,

Resolved, That it be recommended by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, now in session, to the Trustees aforesaid, to grant in fee simple, on perpetual lease, or to let for a term of years all or any portion or portions of said ground for the benefit of the Seminary, as the Board of Directors of the Western Theological Seminary may direct.

The committee further recommend that the sum of thirty-five hundred dollars be appropriated for the support of the professors of the Western Theological Seminary for the ensuing year.

They recommend further, that the report of the Directors be approved, and printed in the Appendix to the *Minutes* of the Assembly.

(Signed)

JOHN BROWN, *Chairman*.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the annual report of the Directors of the Theological Seminary at Princeton, and the report of the committee appointed by the last Assembly to raise funds, be printed in the Appendix to the *Minutes*.

The committee to procure a place in which the Rev. Dr. Breckinridge shall preach the sermon on popery, as directed by this Assembly, reported that they had obtained the Second Presbyterian church in this city, and that the sermon will be preached there to-morrow evening.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day—viz. the election of persons to fill vacancies in the Board of Education; Messrs. Steel, Dewing, and Chester were appointed a committee to collect the ballots and to report the result.

The Committee on Mileage made a further report, which was adopted as follows, viz.:

Resolved, That the Trustees of the General Assembly pay to William French, a ruling elder from the Presbytery of Vincennes, forty-three dollars and fifty-five cents, his proportion of the Commissioners' Fund.

The committee to collect the ballots for persons to fill vacancies in the Board of Education, reported, when it appeared that the following were elected, viz.:

For Four Years.

BISHOPS.

A. Alexander, D. D.,
S. S. Davis,
A. Macklin,

LAYMEN.

Alexander Henry,
Alexander W. Mitchell,
Matthew Newkirk,

BISHOPS.

Wm. S. Plumer, D. D.,
D. McConaughy, D. D.,
J. McDowell, D. D.,
J. N. Campbell, D. D.,
Nicholas Murray.

LAYMEN.

Joseph B. Mitchell,
William Harris,
William Nisbet,
Robert Soutter, Jr.,
Andrew Harris.

On motion, the report of the committee on the Board of Education was taken up and made the order of the day, after the second order of this morning shall have been disposed of.

A communication was received from the Presbytery of Clinton in relation to the boundary-line between the Synods of Alabama and Mississippi, which was referred to the Committee of Bills and Overtures.

The Assembly proceeded to the second order of the day—viz. the report of the Committee on the Treasurer's accounts; it was moved that the report be adopted. The report was considered in part;

And then the Assembly adjourned until this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday afternoon, 4 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer by the Moderator.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Assembly resumed the unfinished business of this morning—viz. the report of the Committee on the Treasurer's Accounts; which was further considered, amended and adopted; and it was ordered that the same be entered upon the minutes in this place with the exception of the statistical tables to which it refers. It is as follows, viz.:

Report of the Committee of the General Assembly upon the Treasurer's Accounts, the sixteenth annual report of the Trustees of the Theological Seminary at Princeton, and the report of the Trustees of the General Assembly.

The committee to whom was referred the several reports above mentioned, ask leave to report:

The committee has been furnished with the account of the Treasurer, from which it appears that there was on the first day of May, instant, a balance in his hands of \$636.06, being a balance of receipts or income derived from all sources during the last year. The committee has also been furnished with the cash-book and ledger kept by the Treasurer, but not with any of the vouchers for the charges, and from the best examination given the subject it does appear that the accounts have been kept in a confused state, so as to render it impossible to investigate them with that minuteness the subject demands. Accounts have been opened in the ledger, and balances struck, sometimes on the debit, and sometimes on the credit side, which accounts have been permitted to remain in this situation for several years without entries showing what disposition has been made of those balances. Again, the accounts have been mixed, rendering it now almost impossible to trace the original entries or funds, or at best in a manner not satisfactory. The books also show a mixing up of the different funds.

The committee wish it to be distinctly understood that this system of keeping the accounts did not commence with the present Treasurer, but has been continued by him. It commenced at the earliest period of the accounts, and when the books were handed over to the present Treasurer he found it more convenient to continue in this course than to open new accounts. It would have been perhaps almost impossible without great labor for him to have done so. He has stated, and his clerk has also stated to the committee,

that it is impossible to understand the accounts as they have been kept by his predecessors, and they did not feel at liberty to open new accounts or accounts upon a different principle.

The committee wish it also to be distinctly understood that it is not intended to censure the Treasurer in this particular. Every member of the committee fully believes that the Treasurer has honestly accounted for every cent that has come to his hands, and they are well aware of the arduous duty he had and still has to perform. It being the intention of the committee in this particular merely to point out the mode in which the accounts have been kept. The committee here refer to the accompanying statement of these accounts.

From the list of securities handed to the committee it appears that the Trustees, under the direction of the Assembly, have invested largely in stocks of different descriptions, and sustained great loss by the subsequent depreciation of said stocks. The committee has prepared a statement of the stocks and securities held by the Assembly which is herewith presented as a part of their report.

No. 1. Shows the amount of stock, its par value, the amount paid for it as nearly as can be ascertained, the value now, and the probable loss, estimating the same according to the present market value.

From this statement it will be perceived that the loss, exclusive of the loss upon Vicksburg stock, amounts to the sum of \$43,354.

This includes the stock purchased, and not that which came to the General Assembly as residuary legatees of the late Rev. Joseph Eastburn for the purposes mentioned in his will, and of which stocks the Trustees of the General Assembly are the Trustees, and hold as such for the purpose of supporting a preacher or preachers of the gospel to the mariners.

No. 2. Shows the different stocks received from the executors of the Rev. Joseph Eastburn, the value they were received at, their present market value, and also the probable loss upon them, estimating the same according to the present market value.

On this stock there will now be a loss of \$2880.

No. 3. Shows the whole value of the stocks, estimated according to the present market value, and also shows the bonds and mortgages and other securities held by the Assembly.

If this system of investing the *funds* in stocks is continued, it appears to the committee that it will not be long before the whole will be lost to the General Assembly.

If the Assembly were compelled to dispose of these stocks at the present market prices, the loss would be such as is above estimated—viz. \$43,354. But the committee cherish the hope that by prudent management and some delay much of this may be avoided.

As to the sixteenth annual report of the Trustees of the Theological Seminary at Princeton. This report, embracing a number of items connected with the general subject of the funds under the care of the General Assembly, is not from the Treasurer, but from the Trustees of that institution. It states the amount of moneys received, but not the sources whence they have been derived.

A *portion* of the funds of which they are receiving the accruing profits appear to be under their own care, and a portion under the care of the Trustees of the General Assembly, and are reported on by both Boards.

From the accounts and books of the Treasurer of the General Assembly it would appear that the scholarships, if not the other endowments, are in charge of the Trustees of the General Assembly, and thus two different Boards have charge of the same funds, the one legally, the other in fact.

Your committee are fully of the opinion that the Board of Trustees, to whom of right any particular funds belong, should have them under their own exclusive care; and that in particular the funds which belong to the Theological Seminary at Princeton should be transferred to the Trustees of that Seminary and be held under *their* control and care.

In conclusion, your committee are compelled to express their regret at the manner of investment; at the commingling of funds, which in their character and design are distinct and different, and at the employment of funds for purposes which, although connected with the interests and operations of this Assembly, yet are purposes for which they were not specifically designed.

The Treasurer has found himself involved in the keeping of his books in difficulties not of his own creation, but transmitted to or imposed on him, and has in the opinion of your committee faithfully employed the funds under the direction of the Board of Trustees.

The Board of Trustees of the General Assembly reinvested a very large amount of the funds in obedience, as it appears, to an order of this Assembly in 1833 and confirmed by the Assembly of 1836. The effect of that reinvestment, as estimated by the Trustees together with the list of the funds under the charge of the General Assembly, and of the stocks in their possession, the Assembly will find by reference to their accompanying documents marked (A) (B) and (C).

The committee would call the attention of the Assembly to the fact that the Finance Committee of the Trustees estimate the probable deficiency of the present year at \$4000 to meet the salaries of the professors and other demands on the funds.

Your committee submit to this Assembly, how far or how long sound discretion will authorize us to invest our funds, contributed for permanent purposes, in securities which are fluctuating and uncertain; or how far good faith toward the donors of funds will allow us to go in appropriating these funds for objects not by them contemplated, and certainly contrary to the terms of their grant.

Your committee fondly cherish the hope that hereafter no temptation of large profits on the one hand nor plea of necessity on the other will have any weight with this Assembly or their Trustees in the investment or disposition of the funds committed to their care by the charity of the Church.

Safe investments, regular and certain income, and scrupulous fidelity in directing the funds contributed to the sole object of the contributors are required, not only by the righteousness of the case and the voice of the Church, but are absolute prerequisites to any calls we may make on their confidence for further aid.

Instructed by the experience of the past to avoid its errors and escape its injuries, your committee believe the wise and safe course for the Assembly to pursue will be found in the resolutions which they hereby respectfully submit:

Resolved, 1. That the Treasurer be directed to close the old books and to open new ones, based upon the present state of the funds.

2. That in these new books the funds contributed for distinct and different objects be so entered and kept.

3. That at no time the funds be diverted from their original destination nor any part of the principal used under any pretence whatsoever.

4. That in the opinion of this committee the funds in the hands of the Trustees are at present invested in securities for the most part of very questionable character; and the Trustees are hereby directed to invest these funds in bond and mortgage on real estate as soon as that can be done with advantage and safety (unless prevented by the terms on which the funds have been

given); and all additions hereafter made to the permanent funds be invested in bond and mortgage.

5. That in order to meet the deficiencies of the past and the demands of the present and future years full and candid views of the state of the funds and the necessities of the institutions dependent upon us be laid before the churches under the care of this General Assembly by their respective pastors; and they be earnestly and affectionately called on to take such action in relation to them as their situation demands, being assured not only of the safety of the funds, but of their correct application; and if any surplus shall remain from the contributions of the churches after meeting the deficiencies of the year, such surplus shall be applied to the permanent funds of the Theological Seminary.

6. That the funds belonging of right to the Theological Seminary at Princeton be transferred to, and invested and kept by the Trustees of that institution in the manner prescribed in these resolutions for the guidance of the Trustees of the General Assembly, so far as can be done in accordance with the directions of the donors; and that the Trustees of the Seminary at Princeton present their annual report to the General Assembly of the state and disposition of the funds and the manner of their investment.

7. *Resolved*, That the Trustees of the Theological Seminary at Princeton be authorized to draw from the Trustees of the General Assembly the sum necessary to pay the professors' salaries, provided there be sufficient available funds in the Treasury.

(Signed)

ROBERT MCCARTEE, *Chairman*.

A communication was received from the Treasurer of the "Corporation for the Relief of Poor and Distressed Presbyterian Ministers, and of the Poor and Distressed Widows and Children of Presbyterian Ministers," together with a number of copies of their "address to the ministers and congregations of the Presbyterian Church in America," which were distributed among the members.

On motion, the order of the day was postponed, and the Assembly sat in a judicial capacity, and took up judicial business No. 1—viz. "The Complaint and Appeal of the First Church of Peoria against the Synod of Illinois and the commission of the Synod."

At the request of Mr. Samuel Lowry, who appeared on behalf of the church, Mr. Sloss was appointed to aid Mr. Lowry in conducting the case.

The decision of the Synod of Illinois appointing a commission to settle certain difficulties in the First Church of Peoria was read. The reasons of the appeal were read. The proceedings of the commission were then offered; and Mr. Barnes moved that inasmuch as the Synod of Illinois have never yet received the report of the commission, the case be dismissed until the Synod shall have acted in the case;

And pending the motion, the court rose,

And then the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.
Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday morning, June 1, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee of Milage reported that there are no funds in the Treasurer's hands to pay the claim of Mr. French.

The subject was referred to the Committee of Milage.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they have given leave

for the remainder of the sessions to Messrs. W. M. Todd, McCombs, Robert son, Boggs, Galbreath, and Gunby.

On motion, the Committee on Foreign Correspondence were ordered to report this afternoon.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day—viz. the election of persons to fill vacancies in the Board of Directors of the Western Theological Seminary, when the following were elected, viz.:

BISHOPS.

Robert Johnson,
Wm. Jeffery,
C. C. Beatty, D. D.,
Samuel McFarren,
Loyal Young,
Geo. Marshall,
Algernon S. McMaster.

RULING ELDERS.

Harmar Denny,
Alex. Semple,
John Hannen.

On motion,

Resolved, That the report of the Treasurer of the General Assembly, the report of the Trustees of the General Assembly, the report of the Trustees of the Theological Seminary at Princeton, and the statistical tables Nos. 1, 2, 3 referred to in the report of the Committee on the Treasurer's Accounts be printed in the Appendix to the *Minutes*.

The committee appointed to inquire what means can be devised for the better supply of the destitute in our country with the gospel made a report, which was read and laid on the table.

The committee on the annual report of the Board of Missions made a report, which was amended and adopted, as follows, viz.:

The committee to whom were referred the annual report of the Board of Missions, with accompanying documents and exhibits and certain other papers, beg leave, as presenting in the most condensed form the result of their consideration of the important subjects referred to them, to report the following:

Resolved, 1. That it becomes this General Assembly to express its gratitude to the Divine Head of the Church, who has so eminently prospered the cause of Domestic Missions and blessed the efforts of the Board, although it has been inadequately sustained by the great body of the Presbyterian Church.

2. That the magnitude of the work before us, the extent of the field yet to be occupied, and the moral destitutions of our frontier regions, brought to the view of this Assembly, both by the report of the Board and by members of our body at the time of its acceptance, are most deeply felt and acknowledged.

3. That this work of Domestic Missions is worthy the attention and demands the labors of the strongest ministers of our Church; and that the presence in this body of two venerable fathers in Christ who, now living in the midst of this great moral waste after more than half a century already spent in fulfilling their Master's last injunction, still feel impelled to devote the very twilight of life to the arduous work of missionaries, should make an irresistible appeal to ministers who are in the meridian of vigor and experience to enter upon this field.

4. That until a sufficient number of suitable men can be found to occupy this field of labor it is the duty of the churches enjoying regular pastoral labors, and of settled pastors, to take part in the work by devoting a portion of their time to missionary labors, and it is recommended that every Presby-

tery take order on the subject and see that the burden of this work be equally distributed among its churches.

5. That it is the duty of every member of the Presbyterian Church to support her Domestic Missions. That each Synod and Presbytery is enjoined to adopt such plan as seems best suited to secure this contribution of all the members in its own bounds with system and certainty, and to report its action in this matter to the next General Assembly. And that when this is done from year to year with regularity the Church will be found abundantly able, in the strength of the Lord, to occupy all the field.

6. That the system of itinerating should be a prominent plan of missionary operation. That while it is proper that the Board, as heretofore, continue to aid destitute and feeble churches, they are directed to assign a full proportion of their missionaries to the work of itinerating. And that in their next annual report the Board distinguish between these two classes of laborers.

7. That the interest of the churches in the work and objects of this Board will be greatly increased if its operations, successes, and wants are periodically communicated; and that as a medium for this purpose the *Foreign Missionary Chronicle* be selected, enlarged, and its title altered to that of the *Foreign and Domestic Missionary Chronicle*, so as to become the vehicle of information for all the missionary operations of the Presbyterian Church.

8. That we approve the recommendation of the Board to the rich in our churches to place the books of the Board of Publication in the hands of our domestic missionaries for distribution, and that the Assembly's Board of Missions be authorized to receive donations for this specific object.

9. That the plans by which Presbyteries and Sessions may become auxiliary to this Board, and the plan for church or congregational associations, as adopted and published by the General Assembly of 1839, be republished in the report of the present year and in the Appendix to the *Minutes*.

10. That this General Assembly accept the charter of the Board of Missions as submitted to them; that the Trustees named in the charter be continued in office until June, 1842; that thereafter, on the first meeting of the Board in June in each year, one-third of the number be elected; and that it be left with the Board of Missions to classify the present Trustees, so that one-third shall vacate their office every year, as the charter provides.

11. That the report of the Board of Missions is highly approved, and recommended to the serious attention of our Synods, Presbyteries, churches, and members; and that it be returned to the Board for publication, at their discretion.

The Committee of Mileage made a report in the case of Mr. French, stating that the other Commissioners had agreed to a proportionate reduction of the amount due them, in order that Mr. French might be included in the appropriation of the Commissioners' Fund.

Which was laid on the table.

And then the Assembly adjourned until this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday afternoon, 4 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

On motion, the Assembly sat in a judicial capacity and resumed judicial business No. 1. The motion offered by Mr. Barnes to dismiss the case was considered, and, after debate, on motion, leave was given to withdraw the same. The records of the Synod of Illinois were read; and the minutes of the commission of the Synod were read, in part; when Mr. Berry moved, that as the case is improperly before us, and one which does not come before

us either by appeal or complaint, the whole proceedings of the last Assembly in directing the Synod of Illinois to appoint a committee, and the whole proceedings of the Synod in appointing a committee or commission or in taking jurisdiction of the case of the church of Peoria, be set aside as irregular and unconstitutional, and the Presbytery be directed to restore the churches of Peoria to the condition in which they were prior to the action of the committee of Synod. After debate, this motion was put and lost, and Mr. Dod moved that the complaint, so far as the appointment of a "commission" on the part of the Synod is concerned, be dismissed as irregular, inasmuch as the legal notice of intention to complain was not given to Synod; and that the complaint against the proceedings of the "commission" be dismissed, inasmuch as that commission is not known to this body, and the Synod cannot be called upon to answer for the acts of their commission until they have been reported and sanctioned, nor then without legal notice of complaint.

Pending this motion, the court rose.

And then the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow morning at 8½ o'clock.
Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday morning, June 2, 8½ o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave to Messrs. Herron, McClelland, Bartley, Mack, Munson, Cross, Gray, Bland, Sharon, Critchlow, T. Smyth, James Wilson (New Castle), G. W. Coons, Torbert, and Alexander.

On motion, the report of the committee on the annual report of the Board of Publication was taken up, amended and adopted, as follows, viz.:

The committee on the report of the Board of Publication beg leave to say:

In their opinion the thanks of the Assembly and the Church are due to the Board for the ability, zeal and diligence with which they have prosecuted the great enterprise committed to their management.

The committee have learned with regret that the funds at the disposal of the Board are not nearly equal to what we had reason to expect, in consequence of many sums having been included in statistical reports to the Assembly which were *subscribed*, but *are not yet paid*. They deem it important that the pecuniary means of the Board be enlarged as soon as practicable. To effect this—

Resolved, 1. That each Presbytery be directed to take effectual measures for the circulation of these books among the people.

2. That it be recommended to the Board to append to at least one edition of the Psalm and Hymn Book about to be published the Confession of Faith, with the Scripture references, and the Directory for Worship.

3. That this Assembly would recommend that at least one set of the publications of the Board be obtained by every church as a congregational library, to be under the direction of the church Session.

4. That the report under consideration be committed to the Board for publication.

(Signed)

JAMES L. SLOSS, *Chairman of Committee.*

The Assembly proceeded to the postponed order of the day—viz. the report of the committee on the annual report of the Board of Education, which was considered and adopted, as follows, viz.:

The committee on the annual report of the Board of Education recommend that the report be approved and returned to the Board for publication. They also recommend the adoption of the following minute:

As it appears from the report of the Board of Education that the number of candidates under its care has continued to diminish, and that there is great reason to apprehend a further diminution from the fact that so few pious young men are seeking a liberal education; and whereas, it is perfectly manifest that the world cannot be saved according to the gospel without a large increase of the ministers of the word to bring men to the knowledge of the way of salvation through Jesus Christ;

The General Assembly therefore would distinctly recognize their entire dependence on God for the increase of such ministers as he will employ in the conversion of the world, and that the only effectual means which we can employ is fervent, importunate prayer, without which all our organizations are vain and impotent; therefore,

Resolved, That, in accordance with the suggestion of the Board of Education, the General Assembly do earnestly recommend to all the churches under their care that on the first Sabbath of November next special prayer be offered in all our churches to the Lord of the harvest that he would send forth more laborers into his harvest.

It is also recommended to all our pastors that on the same day, if convenient—if not, on some other suitable day—a sermon be preached on the subject of “*A Call to the Ministry*.”

The Assembly approve of the charter obtained by the Board, and order that, in accordance with the terms of the charter, it shall hereafter be known by the name of “The Board of Education of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.”

The Assembly would also provide, in accordance with the requirements of the aforesaid charter, that at the annual meeting of the Board of Education in the year 1842, on the day when the Board meets to reorganize and elect its officers, they shall proceed to elect, by ballot, three persons in the room of the three first named of the Trustees of the Board of Education, incorporated by the aforesaid charter. On the day of the annual meeting in 1843 they shall proceed in like manner to elect three persons in the room of the second three Trustees named in the charter aforesaid; and on the day of the annual meeting of the Board of Education in 1844 they shall elect, in the same manner, three persons in the room of the three remaining Trustees of the aforesaid Board; and thenceforward annually electing three persons in the room of that class which has served three years; provided always, that the same persons shall be re-eligible.

The Board of Education may also, at any of its regular meetings, elect persons to fill vacancies occurring by death, resignation, or otherwise.

On motion, that part of Overture No. 2 which proposes that the Assistant Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions be, *ex-officio*, a member of the Executive Committee, was taken up and indefinitely postponed.

On motion, Overture No. 8—viz. for the repeal of the rule making it imperative on Presbyteries to examine applicants for admission from other Presbyteries—was taken up and indefinitely postponed.

On motion, the report of the committee on Overture No. 11—viz. on ordination, and on ministers resigning their office—was taken up; and it was referred to a committee who are instructed to report to the next General Assembly.

On motion, the Assembly appointed the Rev. Robert J. Breckinridge, D. D., chairman of the aforesaid committee; and the Moderator appointed the Rev. William W. Phillips, D. D., John M. Krebs, Cornelius C. Cuyler, D. D., and Alexander Maeklin the remainder of the committee.

On motion, the report of the committee on Overture No. 6, recommending

that the question of the office of ruling elders in ordinance be sent down to the Presbyteries, was taken up and indefinitely postponed.

On motion, Mr. T. Smyth's resolution respecting the use of the title of bishop was taken up and indefinitely postponed.

On motion, Dr. Neill's resolution respecting the right of petition was taken up; it was moved that it be indefinitely postponed; and the previous question being called, it was ordered, and the resolution was indefinitely postponed. Mr. Steel demanded the yeas and nays on this motion; but the call not being seconded by one-third of the house, the yeas and nays were not ordered.

On motion, Overture No. 12 was taken up, and adopted as follows, viz.:

The Board of Publication is hereby directed to take into consideration the propriety of publishing a new edition of the Assembly's Digest, having first caused a thorough re-examination of the minutes of all the years embraced in the present Digest, and also a full examination of all those published since, so that the balance may contain, in a small space and a cheap form, all the important acts of the Assembly now in force; to which may be added such statistical and other information in regard to our Church as may be judged important.

On motion of Mr. Barnes, the following minute was adopted, viz.:

The General Assembly has reason to believe that the practice of reading sermons in the pulpit is greatly on the increase amongst our ministers; and being decidedly of opinion that it is not the best method of preaching the gospel, it hereby recommends the discontinuance of the practice as far as possible, and earnestly exhorts our younger ministers to adopt a different method as more scriptural and effective.

On motion, the report of the Committee on the Narrative was taken up, and referred to Messrs. Dod, Kollock, and Chester to revise, amend, and publish it in the Appendix to the *Minutes*.

On motion, the report of the committee on Dr. Blythe's motion respecting the better supply of the destitute in our country with the gospel was taken up; and after debate, it was laid on the table.

The final report of the Committee on Mileage was taken up, and it was

Resolved, That the Trustees of the General Assembly be directed to draw an order on their Treasurer for the payment to the Rev. James L. Sloss of sixty-eight dollars and seventy-seven cents, his proportion of the Commissioners' Fund (the claim of Mr. Sloss having been accidentally omitted in the report of the Committee on Mileage), to be paid out of the funds raised for Commissioners next year.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures made a report, which was adopted as follows, viz.:

The Committee of Bills and Overtures regret that the memorial of the Clinton Presbytery came so late into the hands of the General Assembly. Had it been referred sooner to the committee, and before the action of the Assembly on the memorial of the Synod of Mississippi, the request of the Presbytery might have been maturely considered; but in the present attitude of matters in relation to the dividing-line between the Synod of Mississippi and the Synod of Alabama the committee deem it best to refer the Presbytery to the resolution adopted by the Assembly in reference to the memorial of the Synod of Mississippi.

(Signed)

J. J. JANEWAY, *Chairman*.

June 2, 1841.

And then the Assembly adjourned until this afternoon at 3½ o'clock.
Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday afternoon, 3½ o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence reported letters to the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connection with the Church of Scotland, to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, and to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland; which were severally read and adopted. And it was ordered that they be signed by the Moderator and Permanent Clerk, and transmitted by the Stated Clerk to the respective bodies, aforesaid.

Mr. Steel, for himself and others, offered the following protest *against* the vote indefinitely postponing Dr. Neill's resolution respecting the right of petition; which was read; and on motion, it was resolved that the protest is in order, and that it be entered upon the minutes, viz.:

PROTEST.

We, the undersigned members of Assembly, respectfully enter our protest against the action of the General Assembly in postponing indefinitely the resolution offered by Dr. Neill in favor of the right of petition by our Presbyteries and Synods; because,

1st. No opportunity was offered to any member to express his views on the subject previously to the vote; thus the Assembly was hurried into a decision without opportunity to consider the great injuries done by thus virtually denying this sacred right.

2d. Because the spirit of our free form of government is thus violated, inasmuch as it secures to the lower judicatories the right of being heard on all moral and religious subjects when they present their views in a regular and constitutional manner.

SAMUEL STEEL,	JOHN BURTT,
DAVID D. DOWD,	E. W. THAYER,
JAMES F. MURRAY,	DAVID LEWIS.

On motion, the protest was referred to Messrs. Winchester and Halliday to be answered.

The committee to whom was referred the case of the Rev. John Skinner, a foreign minister, received on probation by the Presbytery of Lexington, made a report, which was adopted, as follows, viz.:

Resolved, That the Presbytery of Lexington be authorized to receive Mr. Skinner into full standing at a meeting of their body held after he shall have been under their probation for one year.

The committee appointed to answer the protest of Samuel Steel and others against the vote of the Assembly on the paper offered by Dr. Neill, reported the following answer, which was read and adopted, viz.:

ANSWER TO THE PROTEST OF SAMUEL STEEL AND OTHERS.

The protest imputes to this Assembly a principle which it never adopted—viz. the denial of the right of petition. The true reason of the indefinite postponement of Dr. Neill's paper was, that as no one doubted the right of petition, a further consideration of the subject would consume time by useless debate and legislation. The committee regard this statement as a sufficient answer to the protest in question.

(Signed)

S. G. WINCHESTER, *Chairman.*

The Assembly then sat in a judicial capacity, and resumed judicial business No. 1.

Mr. Dod's motion was considered; and, after debate, Mr. Sloss moved to amend it by adding, "And that all the commission have done in this case is null and void."

After debate, the previous question was called and ordered, and Mr. Sloss's motion was put and lost.

The previous question was then called on Mr. Dod's motion, and being ordered, the motion prevailed. And it was

Resolved, That the case be dismissed.

Mr. Kellar called for the reading of a petition from the Presbytery of Peoria in relation to the aforesaid business; and, on motion, it was referred to the Committee of Bills and Overtures.

On motion, the court took up judicial business No. 3—viz. "The complaint of T. B. Clarke and others against the Synod of Cincinnati."

The decision of the Synod of which complaint is made was read.

The complaint of T. B. Clarke and others, and their reasons, were read.

The records of the Synod, with all the testimony in the case, were then read. And then the court rose.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures made a report, which was adopted, as follows, viz.:

That they have examined the extracts of the minutes of the Presbytery of Peoria relating to Mr. Kellar and Mr. Lowry, and find them so intimately connected with the case that has been dismissed as irregular that they do not call for any action of the General Assembly, and should be considered as a part of the case that has been dismissed.

(Signed)

J. J. JANEWAY, *Chairman*.

June 2d, 1841.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Permanent and Stated Clerks be a committee to provide a place for the meeting of the next General Assembly.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Illinois reported; and the records were approved, with the exception of what relates to the case of the commission appointed on the First and Second churches of Peoria, which is yet *sub judice*.

And then the Assembly adjourned until eight o'clock to-night.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday night, eight o'clock.

The Assembly met, and, the Moderator being absent, Dr. McDowell, the last Moderator present, was requested to take the chair; which he did, and opened the session with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

On motion,

Resolved, That the thanks of the General Assembly be returned to the citizens of Philadelphia for their hospitality during these sessions.

Bills for the incidental expenses, amounting to one hundred and forty-one dollars sixty-three cents, were presented; and it was

Ordered, That the Trustees of the Assembly be directed to pay to the Permanent Clerk the aforesaid amount out of the contingent fund.

The Moderator appeared and took the chair.

On motion, the Assembly then sat in a judicial capacity and resumed judicial business No. 3. T. B. Clarke for the complainants was then heard. Messrs. Steel and Barnes, having been appointed by the Synod of Cincinnati to defend their decision, were then heard. Mr. Clarke was heard in reply,

When, the parties having been heard, the Synod withdrew and the roll was called for the opinions of the members. The question was then put, "Is the complaint well founded?" and it was answered in the affirmative.

And it was

Resolved, That the complaint be sustained, and the decision of the Synod of Cincinnati be reversed, and matters placed in the same situation in which they were before the Synod entered up its judgment in the case.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Cincinnati reported; and the records were approved with the exception of the minutes respecting the case just finished.

On motion, judicial business No. 4—viz. the complaint of B. Ward against the Presbytery of Redstone—was taken up, and it was

Resolved, That as the papers are defective, and there is no one present to prosecute, the case be dismissed.

The minutes of the present session were read and approved.

The roll was called.

The Assembly having finished their business, it was

Resolved, That this General Assembly be dissolved; and that another General Assembly, chosen in like manner, be required to meet in such place in the city of Philadelphia as shall be designated by the Stated and Permanent Clerks, on the third Thursday of May, A. D. 1842, at 11 o'clock, A. M.

Accordingly, the Moderator dissolved the Assembly with singing, prayer, and the apostolic benediction.

JOHN M. KREBS, *Permanent Clerk*.

Philadelphia, June 2d, 1841.

APPENDIX.

NARRATIVE OF THE STATE OF RELIGION.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church to the Churches under their care :

CHRISTIAN BRETHREN : In presenting our annual Narrative of the State of Religion within our bounds, we call upon you to rejoice and render thanksgivings to the Great Head of the Church for the abundant manifestations of his favor. The experience of the past year, as of former days, shows that though we have been unfaithful, he has not forgotten to be gracious. Let us praise the Lord for his many mercies, and humble ourselves under a sense of our great unworthiness.

We would especially present to you, as affording cause for rejoicing, the fact that throughout our churches there appears to be an increasing attention to the religious instruction of children and youth. In nearly all the churches under our care Sabbath-school instruction has been diligently employed, and additional means have been very extensively used by ministers, elders, and parents to guard and feed the lambs of the flock. It is evident that the duty of indoctrinating the young in the truths of the gospel, as set forth in our invaluable standards, is much more deeply felt than in former years. In many of our churches where the religious instruction of children had been formerly entrusted entirely to the Sabbath-school, they are now regularly assembled by ministers and elders for the purpose of catechetical instruction ; and in many families there has been a revival of the ancient and honored practice of family instruction on every Sabbath day in the formularies of our Church. Whenever the Church, fully awake to her duty in this respect, shall sow with a faithful and unsparing hand the seeds of religious knowledge in the minds of the children committed to her care, we cannot doubt that God will reward her with an abundant harvest. Let every child be taught, upon its parents' knees and by the voices that it most loves, that form of sound words which our Church is commissioned to teach ; and in the family and the Church, as well as in the Sabbath-school, let the mind be imbued, by line upon line and precept upon precept, with the truths of the glorious gospel of our Lord, and we shall find in the early conversion of multitudes among our youth and in their steadfast adherence to the faith of their fathers the rich reward of our labors. The General Assembly have this year adopted and sent down to their churches a report upon this subject, prepared by a committee to whom it was referred by the Assembly of 1839, which they hope may be the means of enlisting still more largely the prayers and labors of the Church in the religious education of her youth.

In some of our churches during the past year the ministration of the word and ordinances has been attended by distinct and powerful revivals of religion, though their number, we regret to say, has not been as great as in some former years. While we humble ourselves before God because of our want of faith and prayer and zeal in his service, we would render praise to him for his undeserved favor, manifested in the striking instances just alluded to, in the more silent influences of his grace elsewhere adding to the num-

ber of those that shall be saved, in the establishment of new churches in destitute places, in the increased liberality and missionary spirit of the people generally, and in their growing attachment to the pure doctrines of the gospel.

From the reports which we have received from the Presbyteries we cannot doubt that the benevolent enterprises of the Church are gaining a deeper hold upon the affections of our people. Though the benevolent contributions of some of our churches during the past year have been diminished, we are disposed to attribute this rather to the severe pecuniary embarrassments with which we have been afflicted than to any loss of interest in the great objects of Christian charity. Our ecclesiastical Boards have suffered less in their income than could have been anticipated. They have been enabled to carry out their several plans of usefulness, and with such measure of success at home and abroad as should awaken the gratitude of every pious heart. In foreign lands and among the destitute within our own borders through the charities of the Church the gospel has been preached to perishing multitudes, and many have been converted from the error of their ways to serve the living God. Our Church has not been insensible to her duty of holding forth the word of life, though she has discharged it thus far with much feebleness and imperfection. Much, very much, remains to be done in heathen lands and at our own doors for the fulfillment of the Saviour's command to preach the gospel to every creature; and we call upon you, by your greater contributions and more fervent prayers for the spread of the gospel, to vindicate your sense of its inestimable value, your compassion for the souls of men, and your love for the Saviour who hath bought you with his own blood.

We rejoice to learn that the Board of Publication has found its way to the favor of the churches. The general disposition to procure and read the books which they issue is one, among other symptoms, which indicates an increasing love for the doctrinal truths of our standards, and which must be, on this account, the occasion of joy to all who believe, as we do, that the purest form of truth is essential to the highest degree of goodness.

From the report of the Board of Education you will see, and doubtless with the same grief that we have felt, that the candidates for the gospel ministry under its care are less in number than in former years. Whatever may be the cause of this diminution, the fact is alarming, and should be seriously pondered by the churches. Let us renew our prayers to the Lord of the harvest that he would send forth the needful laborers into the fields that are white for the harvest. The moment that our supply of ministers is lessened our missionary efforts must be crippled. The charity of the Church is in a healthful state only when there is a simultaneous and orderly growth of all its dependent parts. It becomes us therefore to watch and labor and pray that pious young men who are called of God unto this work should be trained for the ministry of our Church.

Of the progress of the temperance cause we have received various reports from different parts of the Church. In some places it is advancing with a steady progress, in others it appears to be on the decline, and from all parts lamentations reach us over the prevalence of the vice which it seeks to discourage and banish. Whatever difference of opinion may exist among the friends of temperance as to the best means of promoting the end at which they aim, there can be no doubt that it is the duty of the Church, with diligence and prayer, to apply to the correction of this evil the truth which God has committed to her for the salvation of men.

Complaints, too, have reached us from many quarters of the desecration of the Sabbath, and of other sins for which it becomes us to humble our-

selves, and pray that God would avert from our Church and nation the chastisements which we have deserved.

In conclusion, we exhort you, Christian brethren, to remember your high calling, and go forward in the strength of the Lord to fulfill the responsible duties resting upon you. The simple and efficient organization of our Church, the purity of her doctrine, and the favor with which God has thus far blessed her leave us no room to doubt that she should take a prominent part in the work of spreading the Gospel throughout the earth. We are evidently called of God to do a great work; let us not do it negligently. Let us labor with all diligence and prayer for the purity and extension of the Church that Jesus Christ hath purchased with his blood, and of which he hath made us overseers and members. Finally, brethren, be ye steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

R. J. BRECKINRIDGE, *Moderator*.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.

THE General Assembly has under its care *seventeen* Synods, comprising *ninety-five* Presbyteries, viz.:

1. The Synod of Albany, containing the *five* Presbyteries of Londonderry, Ogdensburg, Troy, Albany, and Columbia.
2. The Synod of New York, containing the *seven* Presbyteries of Hudson, North River, Bedford, Long Island, Long Island 2d, New York, and New York 2d.
3. The Synod of New Jersey, containing the *six* Presbyteries of Elizabethtown, New Brunswick, Newton, Susquehanna, Caledonia, and Raritan.
4. The Synod of Philadelphia, containing the *eight* Presbyteries of Philadelphia, Philadelphia 2d, West Jersey, New Castle, Baltimore, Carlisle, Huntingdon, and Northumberland.
5. The Synod of Pittsburgh, containing the *ten* Presbyteries of Blairsville, Redstone, Washington, Ohio, Allegheny, Steubenville, St. Clairsville, Beaver, New Lisbon, and Erie.
6. The Synod of Ohio, containing the *five* Presbyteries of Columbus, Marion, Lancaster, Richland, and Wooster.
7. The Synod of Cincinnati, containing the *five* Presbyteries of Chillicothe, Miami, Cincinnati, Oxford, and Sidney.
8. The Synod of Indiana, containing the *seven* Presbyteries of Salem, Vincennes, Madison, Crawfordsville, Indianapolis, Logansport, and Michigan.
9. The Synod of Illinois, containing the *six* Presbyteries of Kaskaskia, Sangamon, Schuyler, Iowa, Palestine, and Peoria.
10. The Synod of Missouri, containing the *three* Presbyteries of Missouri, St. Louis, and Palmyra.
11. The Synod of Kentucky, containing the *five* Presbyteries of Louisville, Muhlenburg, Transylvania, West Lexington, and Ebenezer.
12. The Synod of Virginia, containing the *five* Presbyteries of Greenbrier, Lexington, Winchester, West Hanover, and East Hanover.
13. The Synod of North Carolina, containing the *three* Presbyteries of Orange, Fayetteville, and Concord.
14. The Synod of West Tennessee, containing the *five* Presbyteries of Holston, West Tennessee, Nashville, North Alabama, and Western District.
15. The Synod of South Carolina and Georgia, containing the *eight* Pres-

byteries of South Carolina, Bethel, Harmony, Charleston, Georgia, Hopewell, Flint River, and Florida.

16. The Synod of Alabama, containing the *three* Presbyteries of South Alabama, Tuscaloosa, and Tombeckbee.

17. The Synod of Mississippi, containing the *four* Presbyteries of Mississippi, Clinton, Arkansas, and Louisiana.

SUMMARY VIEW OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES FOR 1841.

PRESBYTERIES.	Ministers.	Candidates.	Churches.	Exam. added on	Certificate.	Total of Com-municants.	Adults Bap-tized.	Infants Bap-tized.	Funds raised for Dom. Missions.	Funds raised for Foreign Missions.	Funds raised for Education.	Funds raised for Theological Seminaries.	Funds raised for Board of Publication.	Commission-ers Fund.	Contingent Fund.	STATED CLERKS OF PRESBYTERIES.
Londonderry	21	...	10	13	...	1214	...	24	...	...	...	...	...	\$9 50	.....	Edward L. Parker.
Ogdensburg	5	...	1	40	27	772	...	3	51	\$30 78	\$16 00	...	...	40 00	\$3 00	John A. Savage.
Troy	8	3	3	9	84	70	1603	23	69	498 00	463 38	...	...	38 00	11 00	W. D. Snodgrass, D. D.
Albany	33	8	5	26	318	153	3558	65	181	1337 94	672 70	200 00	...	71 26	60 26	John Clancy.
Columbia	5	...	...	7	4	193	2	4	15 00	20 00	5 25	...	...	...	...	Alfred Gardner.
Hudson	20	3	2	16	54	33	1746	23	65	133 00	407 03	50 00	...	20 41	14 56	John H. Leggett.
North River	12	...	2	7	4	12	486	3	20	193 12	44 00	21 00	...	12 50	10 00	John Johnston.
Bedford	16	1	2	16	12	23	1122	6	27	360 34	772 07	139 00	...	41 96	16 43	Jacob Green.
Long Island	5	1	5	33	9	1100	11	47	88 87	162 37	...	82 00	...	...	...	Hugh N. Wilson.
Long Island 2d	10	...	5	10	17	753	12	23	48 14	102 94	...	25 00	...	14 91	3 07	James McDougall.
New York	27	13	5	13	151	265	4111	21	178	3227 72	2708 49	2742 00	402 00	139 12	178 67	John M. Krebs.
New York 2d	8	2	3	8	45	52	884	7	96	888 00	775 50	5500 00	...	42 00	17 00	J. McElroy, D. D.
Elizabethtown	29	4	6	22	161	84	4018	54	148	282 58	661 87	170 50	...	49 91	45 41	J. M. Hunting.
New Brunswick	37	10	8	19	178	110	3451	59	167	598 10	427 10	321 30	389 87	49 25	38 02	Eli F. Cooley.
Newton	18	5	...	25	73	35	3004	14	127	485 62	233 52	142 50	25 00	...	12 00	John Gray.
Susquehanna	12	...	5	18	22	23	693	7	35	137 56	39 00	36 22	345 62	28 86	...	John Dorrance.
Caledonia	13	...	2	9	43	21	500	4	55	53 01	95 43	35 50	2 50	42 00	10 00	Isaac W. Platt.
Raritan	9	1	...	14	37	53	1320	12	84	20 00	169 00	83 00	...	19 00	13 40	P. O. Studdiford.
Philadelphia	26	8	8	19	331	154	3302	51	246	3494 14	3191 99	978 00	1100 00	100 03	87 03	Wm. M. Engles, D. D.
Philadelphia 2d	9	4	2	13	46	23	862	18	54	67 15	116 50	72 00	70 00	22 25	20 75	W. D. Howard.
West Jersey	15	1	2	15	98	28	1135	60	25	428 63	488 81	111 17	117 50	6 00	3 00	Samuel Beach Jones.
New Castle	31	6	1	40	80	63	2409	28	122	164 94	808 67	40 00	...	38 14	5 14	R. P. Du Bois.
Baltimore	14	5	3	14	50	25	1086	5	45	...	...	...	...	...	...	John P. Carter.
Carlisle	28	2	5	41	108	70	2769	17	138	305 75	282 00	55 00	75 00	28 00	9 50	James C. Watson.
Huntingdon	21	2	2	34	241	140	3950	41	371	323 71	1039 10	200 00	437 95	82 00	13 00	Joshua Moore.
Northumberland	17	...	4	25	220	56	2256	29	209	81 00	342 03	18 00	50 00	38 00	10 00	Isaac Grier.
Blairsville	20	2	4	35	278	103	4058	34	378	281 70	191 51	67 46	138 99	83 16	10 00	Watson Hughes.
Red Stone	15	3	2	29	151	76	2779	34	188	646 75	694 07	117 70	476 00	63 07	8 00	A. G. Fairchild.
Washington	21	8	9	25	171	141	3552	41	252	1147 22	1197 85	190 10	5 00	80 00	14 00	John Engleson.
Ohio	32	3	9	33	174	93	3250	30	246	766 52	1473 18	651 59	174 22	108 47	23 00	A. S. Macmaster.
Alleghany	17	2	3	32	176	91	2449	29	259	91 82	199 69	29 99	5 00	98 85	7 00	Loyal Young.
Steubenville	18	...	1	24	220	55	2292	50	136	307 94	482 11	212 37	...	58 00	5 90	Charles C. Beatty, D. D.

PRESBYTERIES.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Com. added on Examination.	Com. added on Certificate.	Total of Commu- nicants.	Adults Bap- tized.	Infants Bap- tized.	Funds raised			Funds raised for Theological Seminaries.	Funds raised for Board of Publication.	Commission- ers' Fund.	Contingent Fund.	STATED CLERKS OF PRESBYTERIES.	
										for Dom. Missions.	Funds raised for Foreign Missions.	Funds raised for Education.						
St. Clairsville.....	11	1	1	20	109	43	1239	21	139	\$226 50	\$158 89	\$81 40	\$52 21	.....	\$50 00	.....	Benjamin Mitchell.	
Beaver.....	10	2	1	17	85	44	1494	20	112	72 00	37 34	4 00	.....	.....	33 00	\$ 50	Robert Dilworth.	
New Lisbon	10	1	24	152	108	1656	44	155	331 74	380 03	49 52	49 52	125 25	.....	38 75	2 50	William O. Stratton.	
Eric.....	11	3	2	26	73	28	1730	8	109	85 75	167 50	71 93	3 00	.....	34 79	3 50	Abalom McCreedy.	
Columbus.....	12	1	1	16	77	20	1133	16	71	289 82	313 25	75 00	.....	.....	57 50	.....	James Hoge, D. D.	
Marion.....	6	1	2	21	77	37	749	21	100	44 85	102 70	45 85	17 01	\$102 50	66 22	62 35	John A. Dunlap.	
Lancaster.....	15	27	129	90	1561	24	156	24	156	315 54	407 30	124 54	90 00	35 75	103 50	12 65	James Culbertson.	
Richland.....	14	2	4	27	119	55	1531	26	143	67 14	270 21	90 57	.....	5 00	51 37	6 50	James Rowland.	
Wooster.....	18	2	1	35	278	64	2424	62	201	158 87	221 73	73 67	15 62	.....	59 00	7 50	James B. Morrow.	
Chillicothe.....	12	2	18	96	42	1949	17	136	30 00	238 50	.....	.....	.....	.....	33 85	1 00	John P. Vandyke.	
Miami.....	7	1	3	23	86	40	1399	20	77	456 39	583 54	.....	81 00	.....	103 12	4 00	James C. Barnes.	
Cincinnati.....	8	4	1	17	69	69	1324	9	73	363 06	345 46	232 26	784 19	903 66	142 00	28 74	John Burtt.	
Oxford.....	19	2	5	30	87	45	1498	28	76	205 75	96 65	.....	686 00	.....	56 75	3 00	Thomas E. Hughes.	
Sidney.....	9	1	21	75	47	1024	15	82	125 00	52 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	58 87	50	John A. Meeks.	
Salem.....	8	2	2	15	75	67	677	20	40	221 87	229 00	136 00	352 00	5 00	68 50	6 50	W. C. Anderson.	
Vincennes.....	10	3	18	48	26	636	13	37	43 00	41 06	.....	68 56	.....	.....	.....	.....	Wm. C. Matthews.	
Madison.....	9	3	16	47	36	620	16	51	84 12	271 22	15 00	124 00	21 25	57 50	10 00	.....	W. F. Ferguson.	
Crawfordsville.....	5	...	...	49	41	503	16	57	32 50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	80 00	2 50	D. M. Stewart.	
Indianapolis.....	9	1	19	64	40	1100	15	61	397 75	341 41	214 68	.....	.....	.....	47 43	.....	Alexander Williamson.	
Logansport.....	11	...	1	27	57	77	757	17	47	5 00	30 87	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Michigan.....	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...					Thomas A. Spilman.
Kaskaskia.....	8	1	17	32	29	481	5	42	27 00	128 61	3 94	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	John G. Bergen.	
Sangamon.....	6	...	9	15	6	119	...	11	30 31	32 62	.....	.....	.....	.....	13 50	.....	James M. Chase.	
Schuyler.....	10	...	2	16	32	88	379	9	22	18 82	1 62	.....	.....	.....	9 56	.....	John Mark Fulton.	
Iowa.....	6	...	12	19	138	213	213	20	29 18	7 00	.....	.....	7 00	17 00	.....	.....	R. H. Lilly.	
Palestine.....	9	...	13	49	57	439	16	44	55 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7 56	2 00	Samuel C. McCune.	
Peoria.....	4	...	10	10	18	192	...	8	24 05	25 75	.....	.....	.....	.....	10 00	.....	John L. Yantis.	
Missouri.....	8	...	15	36	78	543	9	56	366 50	594 18	.....	.....	25 00	.....	.....	5 00	John F. Cowan.	
St. Louis.....	12	2	18	53	71	729	15	49	70 10	.....	100 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Franklin B. McElroy.	
Palmyra.....	9	...	18	84	11	727	...	65	953 33	1010 63	541 13	.....	107 00	135 00	30 00	.....	W. L. Breckinridge.	
Louisville.....	17	4	1	23	100	52	1651	27	119	67 87	45 06	.....	.....	.....	26 99	.....	Wm. D. Jones.	
Muhlenburg.....	7	1	2	18	36	18	531	4	32	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Transylvania.....	13	2	25	127	37	1550	64	57	398 75	407 00	250 00	.....	97 00	116 00	17 00	.....	Charles A. Campbell.	
West Lexington.....	13	2	25	127	37	1550	64	57	398 75	407 00	250 00	.....	97 00	116 00	17 00	.....	Charles A. Campbell.	

Ebenezer.....	10	...	1	25	68	28	758	24	55	88 00	214 00	196 00	.....	112 50	68 50	.....	Robert C. Grundy.		
Greenbrier.....	9	1	...	17	11	3	1386	1	55	377 84	.....	25 00	.....	.....	87 00	.....	Wm. G. Campbell.		
Lexington.....	32	5	4	40	54	51	3126	8	167	131 11	779 56	376 78	118 25	149 50	72 75	12 50	John A. Van Lear.		
Winchester.....	13	2	8	29	45	36	1558	10	98	350 24	898 59	271 18	5 00	130 75	37 00	.....	Peyton Harrison.		
District of Columbia..	5	2	2	5	7	6	454	...	13	100 00	300 00	168 00	.....	.....	38 00	9 00	Elias Harrison.		
West Hanover.....	22	7	2	35	74	50	1154	30	37	196 94	222 00	360 00	137 00	63 00	107 00	.....	James Whaley.		
East Hanover.....	10	2	2	10	55	23	995	10	61	868 12	1141 11	884 68	300 00	100 00	77 67	31 33	John Leyburn.		
Orange.....	28	4	2	42	79	15	2183	42	71	76 72	682 42	184 00	.....	122 00	137 00	17 00	N. H. Harding.		
Fayetteville.....	18	5	11	41	42	6	3023	9	157	10 50	536 47	1 33	.....	50 20	118 28	1 50	Colin McIver.		
Concord.....	27	1	3	52	122	22	3491	19	173	74 00	505 00	151 00	4 50	50 00	90 00	5 00	Samuel Williamson.		
Holston.....	9	1	2	10	33	5	862	5	29	.....	23 00	.....	.....	.....	60 00	3 50	Samuel Y. Wylie.		
West Tennessee.....	8	...	1	14	15	2	433	8	15	115 75	143 62	28 25	.....	25 00	12 31	.....	James M. Arnell.		
Nashville.....	7	1	...	13	7	10	866	2	27	250 00	245 80	788 18	.....	2 00	16 32	6 00	John T. Edgar, D. D.		
North Alabama.....	6	...	10	1	5	124	1	10	105 00	.....	420 00	163 62	.....	465 50	10 00	1 00	James L. Sloss.		
Western District.....	11	5	2	32	128	58	805	22	75	311 75	104 00	207 13	.....	17 00	115 00	1 50	Henry M. Kerr.		
South Carolina.....	19	...	1	38	95	8	2322	45	79	58 68	.....	412 56	15 00	.....	328 00	.....	S. B. Lewers.		
Bethel.....	14	2	...	21	57	11	1940	7	88	35 25	63 75	180 87	.....	5 00	97 00	5 50	John B. Davies.		
Harmony.....	21	2	1	25	140	29	1690	47	96	.....	387 63	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	B. Gildersleeve.		
Charleston.....	14	2	...	6	15	14	476	9	23	444 00	865 00	1200 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	C. C. Jones.		
Georgia.....	10	1	4	8	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	226 86	.....	Francis Bowman.		
Hopewell.....	22	...	4	36	85	35	1059	20	40	708 50	875 00	557 00	.....	.....	149 12	2 00	James C. Patterson.		
Flint River.....	14	3	1	34	42	37	1438	13	89	53 50	315 00	172 43	.....	.....	237 00	3 00	T. S. Witherspoon.		
Florida.....	7	...	...	5	...	...	163	...	...	167 19	203 44	78 18	.....	59 00	203 00	16 50	J. N. Carothers.		
South Alabama.....	18	6	6	43	217	93	1712	89	151	21 00	900 30	377 62	.....	50 00	145 00	.....	T. C. Stuart.		
Tuscaloosa.....	12	2	2	23	26	36	916	7	65	90 00	310 37	481 50	.....	.....	.....	.....	J. Chamberlain, D. D.		
Tombecbee.....	7	2	2	22	1	13	117	1	9	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Samuel Hurd.		
Mississippi.....	11	2	8	15	30	18	756	8	49	2369 50	1265 50	641 00	.....	210 12	132 00	16 00	James Purviance.		
Clinton.....	11	1	...	16	43	13	226	14	31	7 50	5 00	.....	.....	.....	133 50	6 50	James Purviance.		
Arkansas.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...									James Purviance.	
Louisiana.....	11	1	...	12	51	25	332	21	82	50 00	238 50	65 00	.....	10 00	131 16	50	James Purviance.		
Totals,	1304	195	202	1911	7624	4481	134433	1842	8365	29261	33	60112	63	6936	60	6055	94	910	96
Totals of last year,	1221	185	199	1763	6944	4200	126583	1741	7844	35113	61	48523	14	8064	67	50190	21	5063	05

N. B.—By an error in summing up, the total number of Ministers in the Summary View of last year was given as 1615 instead of 1221, and the total number of Churches as 1073 instead of 1763. Persons possessing the Minutes can make these corrections.

GENERAL REVIEW.

The statistical reports from Presbyteries are still very defective in many particulars, and from no inconsiderable number of them no notice of ecclesiastical changes has been received. The following summary may serve to exhibit the state of the Presbyterian Church, so far as the data have been furnished.

There are in the Church *one thousand three hundred and four* ordained ministers; *one hundred and ninety-five* licensed preachers; *two hundred and two* candidates for the ministry; *one thousand nine hundred and eleven* churches; *one hundred and thirty-four thousand four hundred and thirty-three* communicants; and *one hundred and forty-one thousand four hundred and eighty-nine* dollars have been contributed to the various institutions of the Church, this sum not including what has been contributed for societies not immediately responsible to the Church.

During the past year three new Presbyteries have been formed and recognized by the General Assembly—viz. Presbytery of Iowa, of the Synod of Illinois; Presbytery of Michigan, of the Synod of Indiana; and the Presbytery of Florida, of the Synod of South Carolina and Georgia. Notice was given to the Stated Clerk of the act of the Synod of Mississippi in forming a new Presbytery to be called the “Indian Presbytery,” but as no notice was received of its actual organization, it was not formally recognized by the General Assembly.

The General Assembly divided the Synod of Pittsburgh and constituted the Presbyteries of Washington, Steubenville, St. Clairsville, and New Lisbon into a new Synod to be called the Synod of Wheeling.

The Presbyteries of Abingdon, Morganton, and District of Columbia have been merged in adjoining Presbyteries, and are no longer to be known under their distinctive names.

The General Assembly also formed a new Synod in Northern India, to be known as the “Synod of Northern India,” and consisting of the Presbyteries of Lodiana, Allahabad, and Furrukabad, and embracing thirteen ordained ministers. As most of the members of this Synod are reported in the statistical tables of the different Presbyteries, no distinct notice is taken of the Synod in the SUMMARY VIEW for the present year.

During the past year *sixty-three* young men have been licensed to preach the gospel; *ten* churches have been received; *fifteen* organized; *fifty* licentiates ordained to the gospel ministry; *seventy-one* persons installed as pastors; and *twenty-three* ministers have departed this life, viz.:

NAMES.

PRESBYTERIES.

Rev. Murdock McMillan	Western District.
“ John Reed	Blairsville.
“ Shadrach H. Terry	Blairsville.
“ Thomas Holliday	Hudson.
“ J. C. Thompson	Orange.
“ Moses Waddell, D. D.	South Carolina.
“ Chas. W. Martin	South Carolina.
“ Ebenezer K. Maxwell	2d Presbytery of New York.
“ Robert McKee	New York.
“ Elias W. Craue	New York.
“ Andrew W. Poage	Miami.
“ William Fisher	Oxford.
“ Duncan S. McCormick	South Alabama.
“ G. G. McAfee	Muhlenburg.

NAMES.	PRESBYTERIES.
Rev. Horace S. Pratt.....	Tuscaloosa.
" John H. Kennedy.....	Ohio.
" Boyd Mercer.....	Ohio.
" George A. Baxter, D. D.....	West Hanover.
" Edward Lanier.	Nashville.
" Joseph Campbell, D. D.....	Raritan.
" David Wright	Tombeckbee.
" Samuel Tait.....	Erie.
" Joseph L. Jones.....	Georgia.*

As before noticed, the reports in relation to these last items are particularly defective, and hence it is difficult to determine how nearly the results approximate to the truth.

WM. M. ENGLS, *Stated Clerk.*

*Several of these deaths were not formally reported, some of them having occurred since the Presbyterian reports were prepared. The Stated Clerk has ascertained them from other sources. It is desirable to preserve such a memorial of deceased clergymen.

1842.

PHILADELPHIA, *May 19th*, 1842.

THE General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America met agreeably to appointment in the Seventh Presbyterian Church, in the city of Philadelphia, on Thursday, the 19th day of May, A. D. 1842, at 11 o'clock A. M.; and was opened with a sermon by the Rev. Robert J. Breckinridge, D. D., Moderator of the last Assembly, from 2 Thessalonians i. 11: "Wherefore also we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfill all the good pleasure of his goodness, and the work of faith with power."

After the sermon the Moderator gave notice that as soon as the benediction was pronounced he would take the chair and proceed to the organization of the Assembly. The Moderator accordingly took the chair, and opened the session with prayer.

The Permanent Clerk, from the Standing Committee of Commissions, reported that the following persons, present, have been duly appointed and are hereby enrolled as Commissioners to this General Assembly, and laid their commissions on the table, viz.:

I. OF THE SYNOD OF ALBANY.

PRESBYTERIES.	BISHOPS.	RULING ELDERS.
<i>Londonderry,</i>	Zedekiah S. Barstow.	
<i>Ogdensburg.</i>		
<i>Troy,</i>	Villeroy D. Reed,	Julius Bartlett.
<i>Albany,</i>	Ezra A. Huntingdon (1),*	Matthew Sherwood.
	M. S. Goodale,	George Davidson.
<i>Columbia,</i>	William Chester (3),	Henry R. Avery.

II. OF THE SYNOD OF NEW YORK.

<i>Hudson,</i>	Benj. Van Keuren,	Wm. Graham.
<i>North River,</i>	John H. Carle,	Stephen Osterhoudt.
<i>Bedford,</i>	E. P. Benedict,	John Owen.
<i>Long Island,</i>	Wm. Townley.	
<i>New York,</i>	W. W. Phillips, D. D.,	Cyrenius Beers.
	John M. Krebs, D. D.,	Micah Baldwin.
<i>New York (2d),</i>	James B. Ramsay.	

III. OF THE SYNOD OF NEW JERSEY.

<i>Elizabethtown,</i>	Thomas Cockran,	Jotham Potter (1).
	A. Henry Dumont,	Elias Winans.
<i>New Brunswick,</i>	George Hale,	L. W. R. Phillips.
	Charles Hodge, D. D. (2),	Francis A. Ewing.

* A figure attached to the name of a member shows that he was not *enrolled* by the Committee of Commissions in their report at the opening of the Assembly, but that he was subsequently enrolled and took his seat on that day of the sessions designated by the figure.

PRESBYTERIES.	BISHOPS.	RULING ELDERS.
<i>Newton,</i>	Daniel Gaston,	James Kennedy.
<i>Susquehanna,</i>	James Clark,	Jonathan Robbins.
<i>Caledonia,</i>	Julius Foster,	John Fox.
<i>Raritan,</i>	Isaac W. Platt,	Benjamin Ferrie.
	Peter O. Studdiford,	Adam Stiger.

IV. OF THE SYNOD OF PHILADELPHIA.

<i>Philadelphia,</i>	William Lord,	Winthrop Sargent.
	Alexander Maeklin,	Wm. Dulty.
<i>Philadelphia (2d),</i>	Silas M. Andrews,	Alfred Jenks.
<i>West Jersey,</i>	George W. Janvier,	William B. Ewing.
<i>New Castle,</i>	Stephen R. Wynkoop,	Nath. W. Sample.
	Wm. W. Latta,	John Kelton.
<i>Baltimore,</i>	R. J. Breekinridge, D. D.,	Antony C. Cazenove.
<i>Carlisle,</i>	John Moody,	Alex. Thompson (2).
	Alex. K. Nelson.	
<i>Huntingdon,</i>	Frederick G. Betts,	Joshua Roller.
<i>Northumberland,</i>	Wm. R. Smith,	Michael C. Greer.

V. OF THE SYNOD OF PITTSBURGH.

<i>Blairsville,</i>	Peter Hassinger,	Wm. T. Smith.
<i>Redstone,</i>	Joel Stonerod,	George Hill.
<i>Ohio,</i>	Elisha P. Swift, D. D.,	Arthur Morrow.
	Richard Lea,	Jacob Guy.
<i>Allegheny,</i>	Robert B. Walker,	Alex. McBride (1).
<i>Beaver,</i>	Arthur B. Bradford.	
<i>Erie,</i>	James G. Wilson.	
<i>Clarion,</i>	Jas. Montgomery (1).	

VI. OF THE SYNOD OF WHEELING.

<i>Washington,</i>	John McClusky,	Francis Braddock.
<i>Stenbenville,</i>	Joseph Kerr.	
<i>St. Clairsville,</i>	Wm. College (4).	
<i>New Lisbon,</i>	Jehiel Talmage (1).	

VII. OF THE SYNOD OF OHIO.

<i>Columbus,</i>	Samuel M. Wilson.	
<i>Marion,</i>	Wm. Hutcheson,	John A. Gormley.
<i>Lancaster,</i>	Wm. Aikin.	
<i>Richland,</i>	Frederick A. Shearer.	
<i>Wooster,</i>	Jonas Denton,	Jeremiah A. Stone.

VIII. OF THE SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

<i>Chillicothe,</i>	Hugh S. Fullerton.	
<i>Miami,</i>	John S. Galloway.	
<i>Cincinnati,</i>	David K. McDonald (2),	James McIntyre.
<i>Oxford.</i>		
<i>Sidney,</i>	W. B. Spence.	
<i>Maumee.</i>		

IX. OF THE SYNOD OF INDIANA.

PRESBYTERIES.

BISHOPS.

RULING ELDERS.

*Salem.**Vincennes.**Madison,**Crawfordsville,**Indianapolis,**Logansport,**Michigan,*

Daniel Lattimore.

Jacob Cozad.

David V. Smock.

Alfred Bryant.

Erie Prince (1).

X. OF THE SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.

*Kaskaskia,**Sangamon,**Schuyler,**Palatine.**Peoria,**Iowa,*

Cyrus C. Riggs.

Andrew Todd (4).

John Montgomery,

Daniel Montgomery.

James Y. McGinnes.

Lancelot G. Bell (2).

XI. OF THE SYNOD OF MISSOURI.

*Missouri.**St. Louis.**Palmyra,*

George W. Newel (1).

XII. OF THE SYNOD OF KENTUCKY.

*Louisville,**Muhlenburg,**Transylvania,**West Lexington,**Ebenezer,*

David T. Stuart (2),

Samuel Harbison (2).

S. S. Templeton.

Timothy Root (2).

Robert Stuart (2),

John M. C. Irwin.

John H. Condit.

XIII. OF THE SYNOD OF VIRGINIA.

*Greenbrier,**Lexington,**Winchester,**West Hanover,**East Hanover,*

David R. Preston.

F. McFarland, D. D.,

Benj. M. Smith,

Lewis F. Wilson,

Benj. F. Stanton,

Theodorick Pryor,

Daniel Brown.

Matthew Wilson.

Wm. H. White.

Sterling C. Anderson (1).

Cyrus Dillard.

XIV. OF THE SYNOD OF NORTH CAROLINA.

*Orange,**Fayetteville,**Concord,*

Drury Lacy,

Colin McIver,

Stephen Frontis.

Jesse Brown.

Wm. H. Cummings (2).

Harvey Leete.

XV. OF THE SYNOD OF WEST TENNESSEE.

*Holston.**West Tennessee.**Nashville,**North Alabama.**Western District,*

John T. Edgar, D. D.,

James B. Reynolds.

Alex. Van Court (1).

XVI. OF THE SYNOD OF SOUTH CAROLINA AND GEORGIA.

PRESBYTERIES.

South Carolina,
Bethel,
Harmony,
Charleston,
Georgia.
Hopewell,
Flint River.
Florida.

BISHOPS.

Wm. H. Harris,
 Andrew H. Caldwell.
 Thomas R. English,
 George Howe, D. D. (1),
 Saml. K. Talmage.

RULING ELDERS.

Henry Fosbrook.
 Murdoch MacLean.
 Arch. Campbell (1).

XVII. OF THE SYNOD OF ALABAMA.

South Alabama,
Tuscaloosa,
Tombeckee.
East Alabama,

Wm. F. McRee,
 Isaac Hadden,
 David Finley (1).

Wm. Walton.
 John B. Thompson.

XVIII. OF THE SYNOD OF MISSISSIPPI.

Mississippi,
Clinton.
Arkansas.
Louisiana,
Holly Springs,

Ephraim T. McLean (2).
 James Weatherby (1).

James S. McComb (7).

XIX. OF THE SYNOD OF NORTHERN INDIA,

In connection with the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

Lodiana.
Furrukabad.
Allahabad.

FROM CORRESPONDING BODIES.

BISHOPS.

LAYMEN.

<i>General Association of</i>	}	Rev. Ashbel C. Washburn.	
<i>Connecticut,</i>			
<i>General Association of</i>	}	Rev. Morris E. White.	
<i>Massachusetts,</i>			
<i>General Convention of</i>	}		
<i>Vermont.</i>			
<i>General Conference of</i>	}		
<i>Maine.</i>			
<i>General Synod of the</i>	}	Morris W. Dwight (5),	Frederick Erringer (5).
<i>Reformed Protestant</i>			
<i>Dutch Church,</i>	}		
<i>General Association of</i>			
<i>New Hampshire,</i>		Rev. Archibald Burgess.	

The committee further reported that the following persons are present without commissions—viz. Ezra Huntington, bishop, from the Presbytery of Albany; Jehiel Talmage, bishop, from the Presbytery of New Lisbon; Alexander McBride, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Allegheny; Sterling C. Anderson, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of West Hanover; Jotham Potter, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Elizabethtown; and Alexander Van Court, bishop, from the Presbytery of Western District.

Also that the following have presented commissions which want the signatures of the Moderators of their respective Presbyteries—viz. Erie Prince, bishop, from the Presbytery of Michigan; George W. Newell, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Palmyra; George Howe, D. D., bishop, and Arehibald Campbell, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Charleston.

Also, that the following have presented commissions in due form from new Presbyteries—viz. James Weatherby, bishop, from the Presbytery of Holly Springs; James Montgomery, bishop, from the Presbytery of Clarion; and David Finley, bishop, from the Presbytery of East Alabama.

The Stated Clerk reported that he had received official information of the creation of four new Presbyteries—viz. Holly Springs, by the Synod of Mississippi; Clarion, by the Synod of Pittsburgh; East Alabama, by the Synod of Alabama; and Maumee, by the Synod of Cincinnati; also of the organization of the Presbyteries of Lodiana, Furrukabad, and Allahabad created by the last Assembly. Whereupon,

On motion, *Resolved*, That the aforesaid new Presbyteries be enrolled, and the Commissioners therefrom admitted to seats in this body.

On motion, Messrs. Platt, Macklin, Preston, Galloway, Cazenove, Beers, and Irwin were appointed a committee of elections; to whom were referred the cases of the Commissioners who are present without commissions or whose commissions were not in due form.

And then the Assembly took a recess until this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Thursday afternoon, 4 o'clock.

The Moderator presented a letter communicating the fact of a legacy having been left to the Assembly by the late Jane Porter of Pennsylvania. Which was put on the docket.

Also an overture from the Presbytery of Baltimore, suggesting an inconvenience arising from the present arrangement of the sessions of the Princeton Theological Seminary. Which was put on the docket.

The Committee of Elections reported that they had received satisfactory evidence that the persons whose cases had been submitted to them were duly appointed as Commissioners to this General Assembly, and recommended that they be enrolled. The report was adopted, and the following were enrolled and took their seats, viz.:

PRESBYTERIES.	BISHOPS.	RULING ELDERS.
<i>Albany,</i>	Ezra A. Huntingdon.	Jotham Potter.
<i>Elizabethtown,</i>		Alexander McBride.
<i>Allegheny,</i>		
<i>New Lisbon,</i>	Jehiel Talmage.	George W. Newell.
<i>Michigan,</i>	Erie Prince.	Sterling C. Anderson.
<i>Palmyra,</i>		
<i>West Hanover,</i>	Alexander Van Court.	Arehibald Campbell.
<i>Western District,</i>	George Howe, D. D.,	
<i>Charleston,</i>		

The Rev. John T. Edgar, D. D., was elected Moderator; and the Rev. Willis Lord, Temporary Clerk.

The docket was presented by the Stated Clerk; which was read.

Communications from the Presbyteries of Lodiana, Furrukabad, and Allahabad, giving a detailed account of their organization and proceedings, were read.

It appearing from the communication from the Presbytery of Lodiana that

they had organized under the title of the First Presbytery of Northern India, that part of their communication was put on the docket.

Two overtures were received from the Presbytery of Lodiana, requesting the opinion of the Assembly respecting the age beyond which baptism is not to be administered to the children of parents converted from heathenism; and respecting the baptism of orphan children in the mission schools. Which were read, and referred to Messrs. McFarland, McIver, and McIntyre.

And then the Assembly adjourned until 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday morning, May 20th, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Committee of Commissions reported the following additional Commissioners, who were enrolled, viz.:

PRESBYTERIES.	BISHOPS.	RULING ELDERS.
<i>New Brunswick,</i>	Charles Hodge, D. D.	
<i>Carlisle,</i>		Alexander Thompson.
<i>Cincinnati,</i>	David K. McDonald.	
<i>Louisville,</i>	David T. Stuart,	Samuel Harbison.
<i>Transylvania,</i>	Timothy Root.	
<i>West Lexington,</i>	Robert Stuart.	
<i>Iowa,</i>	Lancelot G. Bell.	
<i>Orange,</i>		Wm. H. Cummings.
<i>Louisiana,</i>	Ephraim T. McLean.	

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Stated Clerk presented the printed minutes of the last Assembly; which were distributed among the members.

The annual report of the Treasurer of the Trustees of the General Assembly was presented, and the Treasurer's book of accounts was laid by him upon the table. The report was read; and,

On motion of Dr. Breckinridge,

Resolved, That a standing Committee of Finance be appointed, to whom the Treasurer's accounts shall be referred.

Messrs. Breckinridge, Preston, Beers, Sargent, and Baldwin were appointed the aforesaid committee.

The Moderator appointed the following Standing Committees, viz.:

Of Bills and Overtures.—Messrs. W. W. Phillips, Stanton, Lacy, S. K. Talmage, Weatherby, McRee, Cazenove, Sargent, Beers, and Morrow.

Judicial Committee.—Messrs. Breckinridge, Howe, McClusky, Lattimore, Templeton, Pryor, Baldwin, Ferrie, Anderson, and Reynolds.

On Leave of Absence.—Messrs. Dumont, Andrews, Hassinger, Smock, Potter, Sherwood, and Braddock.

On Mileage.—Messrs. A. Thompson, Irwin, Dillard, Campbell, and J. B. Thompson.

On Devotional Exercises.—Messrs. Janvier, Frontis, Huntington, Ramsay, Bartlett, and Owen.

On the Narrative of the State of Religion.—Messrs. Swift, Van Court, Finley, Condit, Davidson, and Newell.

On Foreign Correspondence.—Messrs. Stanton, Macklin, Fullerton, Preston, J. McLean, and Walton.

On Synodical Records, viz.:

Albany—Messrs. Harris, Hadden, M. Wilson, and Leete.

New York—Messrs. Moody, Stonerod, Gormley, and Kelton.

New Jersey—Messrs. S. M. Wilson, Galloway, Stone, and Sample.

Philadelphia—Messrs. Benedict, Kerr, Fox, and D. Montgomery.

Pittsburgh—Messrs. Studdiford, Riggs, Winans, and Dulty.

Wheeling—Messrs. Chester, E. T. McLean, Bradford, and W. B. Ewing.

Ohio—Messrs. Barstow, Goodale, F. A. Ewing, and Jenks.

Cincinnati—Messrs. Cockran, Clark, Robbins, and L. W. R. Phillips.

Indiana—Messrs. J. Talmage, Aikin, McBride, and Guy.

Illinois—Messrs. B. M. Smith, English, J. Brown, and Fosbrook.

Missouri—Messrs. Caldwell, L. F. Wilson, W. H. White, and Roller.

Kentucky—Messrs. Townley, Hale, Kennedy, and Stiger.

Virginia—Messrs. Hutchinson, Shearer, Hill, and W. T. Smith.

North Carolina—Messrs. Cozad, Prince, Greer, and Robbins.

West Tennessee—Messrs. Reed, Clark, Osterhoudt, and E. T. McLean.

South Carolina and Georgia—Messrs. Carle, Van Keuren, Avery, and Bell.

Alabama—Messrs. Bryant, J. Montgomery, Davidson, and A. Thompson.

Mississippi—Messrs. D. T. Stuart, McDonald, Harbison, and Cummings.

A letter was received from the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, which was read and referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence to be answered; and it was ordered that the same be printed in the Appendix to the *Minutes*.

The report of the delegates to the General Associations of Connecticut and Massachusetts was received; which was read and referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the annual sermon on popery be preached on Monday evening next, in the Tenth Presbyterian Church in this city, by the Rev. Dr. Breckinridge, who was appointed for that service by the last Assembly.

A report was received from the committee appointed by the last Assembly (printed *Minutes*, p. 190) on ordinations and on ministers resigning their office. Which was read; and it was

Resolved, That two hundred and fifty copies of the report be printed; and the report be the order of the day for Tuesday morning next, at 9 o'clock.

A communication was received from the Board of Foreign Missions, asking advice on the subject of an act of incorporation for that Board to enable them to hold certain real estate which they have acquired in the city of New York. Which was read, and referred to the Judicial Committee.

An invitation was received from the Union Methodist Episcopal Church in this city, of which the Rev. Joseph Castle is pastor, for the General Assembly to furnish supplies for the pulpit of that church on each Sabbath during the sessions of the Assembly. Which was referred to the Committee on Devotional Exercises.

A minute was offered by Dr. Breckinridge, which was considered, amended, and adopted, as follows, viz.:

The Assembly has long had reason to regret that a more extensive religious influence was not exerted by it during its annual sessions, and that greater facilities for attempting such a result have not been put at its disposal. For remedy whereof, in order to fulfill its duty in this important particular, it is hereby

Resolved, 1. That there shall be preaching before the Assembly every secular evening during its present sessions; and this shall be in lieu of the religious exercises usually set for a particular day during the sessions of the Assembly.

2. That it shall be the duty of the Committee on Devotional Exercises to appoint members of this body to conduct these services from day to day, to designate the respective times and places in which these services shall be

held and to give due notice thereof; and those persons so appointed are hereby required to perform this service according to their ability.

3. Such houses of worship in this city and liberties as may be put at the disposal of the Assembly for this purpose shall be reported to the aforesaid committee, and supplied in the manner herein provided.

4. This arrangement shall commence on Monday evening next.

On motion of Dr. McFarland,

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to designate the order and times of presenting the annual report of the Assembly's Boards. Messrs. McFarland, Andrews, and Baldwin were appointed the aforesaid committee.

The Stated Clerk reported that he had received twenty-four copies each of the printed minutes of the annual and special meetings of the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church; whereupon,

Resolved, That one copy of each be distributed to each of the Synods and each of the Assembly's Boards.

A report was received from the standing Committee on Psalmody, accompanied with two hundred copies of a printed book of hymns selected and recommended for the approval of the Assembly. The report was read and put on the docket, and the books were distributed among the members.

On motion, It was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock to call for narratives from the Presbyteries on the state of religion.

On motion, the Synodical records were called for, and put into the hands of the respective committees.

On motion of Dr. Breckinridge,

Resolved, That Mar Yohanna, a bishop of the Nestorian Christians, of Ooromiah in Persia, now on a visit to the United States, and at present in this city, be invited to sit with the Assembly; that a seat be provided for him near the Moderator; and that the Moderator invite him to address the Assembly at such time as may suit his convenience.

The Permanent Clerk reported that the following appeals and complaints had been put into his hands—viz.:

No. 1. The appeal of the Rev. Archibald McQueen from the decision of the Presbytery of Fayetteville, suspending him from the exercise of his ministry and from sealing ordinances for marrying the sister of his deceased wife.

No. 2. The complaint of F. H. Porter against the Synod of Alabama for sustaining the Presbytery of Tombeckbee in refusing to restore the Rev. Thomas Davis, after the Synod had sustained his appeal against the Presbytery, and reversed the decision of the Presbytery suspending him from the ministry and from the communion of the church.

No. 3. The complaint of Samuel Lowry, for the First Presbyterian Church of Peoria, against the Synod of Illinois for appointing a commission to reinvestigate the case of the Rev. Isaac Kellar and the Second Church of Peoria, decided by the General Assembly of 1840; and also for confirming the proceedings of said commission dissolving both the churches in Peoria, and organizing a new church contrary to the wishes of the people of the First Church and the remonstrance of the Presbytery of Peoria.

No. 4. The protest and complaint of Henry A. Boardman and others against the action of the Synod of Philadelphia in detaching the church at Camden from the Presbytery of West Jersey and attaching it to the Presbytery of Philadelphia.

No. 5. The appeal of Abigail Hanna from a decision of the Synod of Wheeling, sustaining certain decisions of the Presbytery of Washington, and the session of Three Ridge Church on a case not described in the papers.

No. 6. The appeal of Charles Beck from the decision of the Synod of South Carolina and Georgia, sustaining the appeal of James McMahon from the decision of the Presbytery of Charleston, in the case of Beck *vs.* McMahon, who was prosecuted for alleged improper conduct toward the wife of Beck.

No. 7. The complaint of D. Monfort and others against the Synod of Indiana for sustaining the complaint of the Session of Shelbyville Church against the Presbytery of Indianapolis, for refusing to approve the records of the Session of Shelbyville, because the Session had admitted to the communion of the church a man and his wife whose marriage was contrary to the Confession of Faith, chap. 24, sect. iv., he being the brother of her deceased husband.

No. 8. The complaint of Samuel D. Blythe and S. Beach Jones against the Synod of Philadelphia, for detaching the church at Camden from the Presbytery of West Jersey and attaching it to the Presbytery of Philadelphia.

No. 9. The complaint of the Presbytery of Cincinnati against the Synod of Cincinnati for setting off the church at Hamilton from the Presbytery of Cincinnati to the Presbytery of Oxford.

Dr. Breckinridge presented a memorial from Mr. Horatio Parsons of Western New York, in reference to a decision of the Presbytery of Niagara, which is not connected with the General Assembly, whereby he was suspended from the functions of the ministry. Which was read and referred to Messrs. Hodge, Howe, R. Stuart, Sargent, and Reynolds.

And then the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.
Concluded with prayer.

Saturday morning, May 21st, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee of Commissions reported an additional Commissioner, who was enrolled—viz. William Chester, bishop, from the Presbytery of Columbia.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the calling of the roll be omitted until otherwise ordered.

Mar Yohanna, a bishop of the Nestorians, appeared in the Assembly, and was introduced by the Moderator to the House.

On motion of Dr. Hodge, the Rev. Justin Perkins, American missionary to Persia and companion to Mar Yohanna, was invited to sit with the Assembly.

The bishop, Mar Yohanna, then addressed the Assembly in Syriac, which was interpreted by Mr. Perkins. The bishop expressed his gratification in meeting the clergy of the United States, and in beholding the education and piety by which they were characterized, in affecting contrast with the clergy of his own country; also in being permitted to meet with this body of his brethren in the Christian ministry and in the hope of the common salvation, and in being recognized by this Assembly as a Christian brother. And, being about to leave the city immediately, he expressed his thanks for the courtesy of the Assembly, requested their prayers for himself and for his countrymen, and took leave of the body.

The order of the day was taken up, and the Presbyteries were called on for narratives of the state of religion, which were received and referred to the Committee on the Narrative.

The Rev. Mr. Washburn presented the narrative of the state of religion within the bounds of the General Association of Connecticut; which was referred to the Committee on the Narrative. And Mr. Washburn, being obliged to leave the city, took leave of the Assembly.

A letter was received from the Synod of the Presbyterian Church in Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland. Which was read and referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence to be answered. And it was ordered that the same be printed in the Appendix to the *Minutes*.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures reported Overtures No. 1-13. And on motion, the overtures were referred to the same committee, who were instructed to digest the same and to report thereon by resolution.

The Judicial Committee reported requesting that the records of the Synods of Indiana, Alabama, Illinois, Philadelphia, Wheeling, South Carolina and Georgia, and Cincinnati, against which there are appeals or complaints, may be put into the hands of that committee.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the aforesaid records be transferred, for the present, from the committees appointed to examine them to the Judicial Committee.

The Judicial Committee reported No. 1, the appeal of Archibald McQueen from the Presbytery of Fayetteville, as in order, and recommended that it be taken up and issued according to the Book of Discipline. The report was adopted; and on motion, the case was put on the docket.

A request was received through the Judicial Committee from Mr. McQueen, who is absent, that some person be appointed as his counsel, which was agreed to. And on motion, Mr. Stanton was appointed on his behalf.

The Judicial Committee made a report on the subject of an act of incorporation for the Board of Foreign Missions; which was considered and adopted as follows, viz.:

The Judicial Committee having considered the subject on which the Board of Foreign Missions asked the advice of the Assembly—to wit, the propriety of endeavoring to obtain a charter for certain purposes from the legislature of the State of New York—report,

That in the peculiar circumstances of the Church it is important that a general charter incorporating a board of ministers and elders to be elected by the General Assembly, and capable of holding property in trust for its use and subject to its control, similar in its general features to that now existing in Pennsylvania, should be obtained in some other State; and that the State of New York is the one in which such a charter would be the most convenient. Wherefore,

Resolved, That the individuals now composing the Executive Committee of the General Assembly's Board of Foreign Missions be a committee to act in behalf of this body, and as such to endeavor to obtain from the State of New York a charter similar in its essential features to the one which has been long in existence in this Commonwealth. And they will report the result to the next Assembly.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave to be absent from the remaining sessions of the Assembly to Mr. McGinnes, and until Monday afternoon next to Messrs. Talmage and Kelton.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported the following appointments for preaching during the ensuing week, viz.:

Monday evening—Dr. Breckinridge (on Romanism) in the Tenth Presbyterian Church.

Tuesday evening—Mr. Van Court, in the Second Presbyterian Church.

Wednesday evening—Mr. McClusky, in the Eighth Presbyterian Church.

Thursday evening—Dr. Breckinridge (before the Alumni of the Theological Seminary at Princeton), in the Sixth Presbyterian Church.

Friday evening—Dr. Edgar (the Moderator), in the Central Presbyterian Church.

Saturday evening—Mr. Morris E. White, in the Fourth Presbyterian Church.

On the morning of the next Lord's Day (to-morrow)—Mr. Benedict, in the Union Methodist Episcopal Church.

On the evening of the same day—Dr. Krebs, in the Union Methodist Episcopal Church.

The report was adopted.

The committee on the times and order in which the annual reports of the several Boards shall be presented to the Assembly made a report, which was amended and adopted, as follows, viz. :

That the standing order adopted in 1838 be observed on the present occasion, and that the Board of Foreign Missions present their report on Tuesday afternoon next at 4 o'clock; the Board of Missions (Domestic), on Wednesday afternoon; the Board of Education, on Thursday afternoon; and the Board of Publication, on Friday afternoon; at the same hour on each day.

The committee on the memorial of Mr. Horatio A. Parsons made a report which was adopted, as follows, viz. :

Whereas, it appears from an examination of the said memorial and of the documents accompanying it that Mr. Parsons appeals from the decision of a Synod over which this Assembly has no jurisdiction, and where this Assembly has no means of examining into the merits of the case brought to view in this memorial; therefore,

Resolved, That the papers relating to this case be returned to Mr. Parsons, that he may, should he see fit, apply to the Presbytery of Albany, to be disposed of as that Presbytery shall deem best.

Resolved, secondly, That it appears from the peculiar circumstances of Mr. Parsons that the interests of justice require the attention of the Presbytery of Albany to this case.

A report was received from the committee appointed by the last Assembly (printed *Minutes*, page 176) on the subject of a form of confession by applicants for communion, and a directory for administering adult baptism; which was read.

A report from Dr. Robert J. Breckinridge, the minority of the aforesaid committee, was received, which was read. And it was

Resolved, That two hundred and fifty copies of both reports be printed; and that the reports be put on the docket.

Dr. Breckinridge offered a minute of two resolutions: 1st. To dismiss the appeal of the Rev. Archibald McQueen, on account of his not appearing to prosecute it; and 2d, Testifying against such marriages as that which he has contracted. Which was read and put on the docket.

On motion, the Assembly

Resolved, To proceed to the appointment of a place for the meeting of the next Assembly. Nominations were made. And it was

Resolved, That of the places nominated, that one having a majority of all the votes shall be appointed.

The roll was called; when none of the places nominated received a majority of voices. And it was

Resolved, That the appointment be postponed until Thursday morning next at 10 o'clock.

A communication was received from the Trustees of the General Assembly announcing the death of Wm. Brown, one of their number, which was read and put on the docket.

On motion of Dr. Breckinridge, it was

Resolved, That the several Boards of the Assembly be requested to lay their books of minutes and the minutes of their Executive Committees on the table of the Assembly at the time of presenting their annual reports.

And then the Assembly adjourned until Monday morning at 9 o'clock.
Concluded with prayer.

Monday morning, May 23d, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee of Commissions reported additional Commissioners—viz. William College, bishop, from the Presbytery of St. Clairsville, who was enrolled; also Andrew Todd, bishop, from the Presbytery of Sangamon, whose commission was without the signature of the Moderator; which case was referred to the Committee of Elections.

The Rev. Morris E. White, delegate from the General Association of Massachusetts, took leave of the Assembly.

The Committee on Elections reported that they had received satisfactory evidence that Mr. Todd had been duly appointed a Commissioner, and recommended that he be admitted to take his seat. The report was adopted, and Mr. Todd was enrolled.

The Judicial Committee reported Judicial Business Nos. 2, 3, 5, as in order, to be taken up and issued according to the Book of Discipline; and in case No. 3 specifying the order in which the documents shall be read and the parties be heard. The report was adopted, and the cases were put on the docket. And at the request of the parties concerned, made through the Judicial Committee, Mr. McClusky was appointed counsel on behalf of Mr. Davis in the case No. 2; the members of the Synod of Illinois who concurred with the Synod in the case No. 3 were appointed a committee to defend the Synod; and Mr. Pryor was appointed counsel for Mrs. Hanna in the case No. 5.

The Judicial Committee further reported judicial cases Nos. 4 and 8, united and made No. 4; No. 6 and No. 9, as in order, and recommended that they be put on the docket. The report was adopted. And at the request of Mr. Beek in the case No. 6, through the committee, Mr. Dumont was appointed his counsel.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the judicial cases, in their order, be the order of the day for the afternoon sessions on and after Monday next.

Mr. McDonald presented documents in relation to Lane Seminary and the lands deeded by Elnathan Kemper and others to that Seminary, which he had been requested by the heirs of Kemper to offer to this House, in order that the Assembly might inquire whether the intention of the donors has been carried out in the appointment of professors for that institution, and solely with the view of securing the use of the property for the particular purposes for which it was given. Which were referred, together with the whole subject of the Seminary, to Messrs. A. Thompson, Breckinridge, Gal-
loway, McDonald, and Fullerton.

On motion, the report of the Committee of Psalmody was taken up, and considered, and after debate it was made the order of the day for Monday next at 10 o'clock.

A communication was received from the American Sunday-School Union, requesting that their agent, Mr. G. W. Bassett, be allowed to address the Assembly. On motion, the request was granted, and 5 o'clock this afternoon was appointed for hearing Mr. Bassett.

On motion, the Assembly proceeded to call upon the Presbyteries to report their action in relation to popery and the better instruction of the youth in the standards of the Church (printed *Minutes* of 1841, p. 175). After some progress,

The Assembly adjourned until this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Monday afternoon, 4 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

On motion, the Assembly resumed the unfinished business, and proceeded to call on the Presbyteries; which having been gone through, it appeared that the Presbyteries very generally have given great attention to the subject enjoined by resolution 6 in the printed *Minutes* of 1841, page 175.

On motion, the Assembly proceeded to appoint a preacher and a theme for the annual sermon on Romanism before the Assembly next year. Nominations were made and the roll was called, when it appeared that the highest number of voices was given for the Rev. Dr. Archibald Alexander of Princeton, N. J., and the next highest number for the Rev. Henry A. Boardman of Philadelphia; and it was

Resolved, That the Rev. Dr. Alexander be appointed to preach the annual sermon on Romanism, before the next Assembly; that the theme be "The Intolerance of the Church of Rome," and that the Rev. Henry A. Boardman be his alternate.

The hour having arrived, the Assembly was addressed on behalf of the American Sunday-School Union, and especially in relation to their republication of Bunyan's *Holy War*, and their publication of the Rev. Dr. Hodge's *Way of Life*, by their agent, Mr. Frederick A. Packard, in the place of Mr. Bassett. When

On motion of Dr. Breekinridge, it was

Resolved, That the Permanent and Stated Clerks be a committee to inform the American Sunday-School Union that this Assembly is very much gratified by the facts stated to them at this time.

On motion, the overture from the Presbytery of Lodiana, requesting the Assembly to determine the name of the Presbytery, which, in the incipient steps of its organization, was known as the First Presbytery of Northern India, and had organized by that name, was taken up, and it was

Resolved, That that Presbytery be known by the name of the Presbytery of Lodiana.

On motion, the resolutions of Dr. Breekinridge in reference to Mr. McQueen's appeal were taken up. When it was moved to adopt the *first* resolution which proposed to remit the appeal to the Synod of North Carolina. After debate, it was moved to postpone the resolution, with a view to considering the *second*, testifying against incestuous marriages. And after debate,

The Assembly adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday morning, May 24, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee of Commissions reported additional Commissioners—viz. Rev. Morris W. Dwight, and Mr. Frederick Erringer, ruling elder, from the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church, who appeared and took their seats.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures reported Overtures Nos. 1, 2, 3, 6, and 14, all on the subject of equalizing the expenses of the General Assembly and of attending the same; which the committee moved to refer to the Committee on Mileage, which was adopted.

The committee further reported Nos. 7, 8, 10, 12, 13, 15, 16, 18, which were disposed of as follows, viz.:

No. 7. A request from the Synod of North Carolina for permission to alter

the time of their next stated meeting. The committee recommended that the request be granted, and that the next stated meeting of the Synod of North Carolina be held on Wednesday the 26th of October, instead of the 12th of the same month. Which was adopted.

No. 8. A request from the Presbytery of Missouri that the Assembly will change the place of the next stated meeting of the Synod of Missouri. The committee recommended that the request be granted, and that the next stated meeting of the Synod of Missouri be held at Boonville, instead of Jefferson City, to which place it now stands adjourned. Which was adopted.

No. 10. The answer of the Synod of Alabama to the question proposed by the last General Assembly, relative to the boundary-line between that Synod and the Synod of Mississippi—viz. "Whether the line between the States of Alabama and Mississippi should not be the line between said Synods?" The Synod of Alabama answer the above question in the affirmative, and request that the Assembly should so change the line of said Synods. The committee recommended that the request be granted; and it was

Resolved, That the line between the States of Alabama and Mississippi be the dividing-line between the Synods of Alabama and Mississippi.

No. 12. A communication from the Presbytery of the Western District on the subject of allowing ruling elders to unite in the imposition of hands in the ordination of bishops. The committee unanimously recommended an adherence to the order and, until recently, the uniform practice of our Church on this subject—viz. to allow preaching elders or bishops only to engage in that service. Which was adopted.

No. 13. An overture from the Presbytery of South Alabama on the subject of ordaining elders and deacons by the imposition of hands. The committee recommended that it be left to the discretion of each church Session to determine the mode of ordination in this respect. Which was adopted.

No. 15. The question whether the manufacturer, vender, or retailer of intoxicating drinks should be continued in the full communion of the Church. The committee recommended the adoption of the following resolution—viz. That whilst the Assembly rejoice in the success of the temperance reformation, and will use all lawful means to promote it, they cannot sanction the adoption of any new terms of communion. Which was adopted.

No. 16. Two resolutions on the subject of the support of aged and distressed ministers and their destitute families. The committee recommended the adoption of these resolutions by the Assembly, and that the Presbyteries be called upon to report at the next meeting their action in the case. Which was agreed to. And the resolutions were adopted as follows, viz.:

Resolved, 1. That we deem it to be the duty of the Church of Christ to provide for the comfortable support of her aged and distressed ministers and their widows and orphans, and that she is not justifiable in leaving them to the provisions of any other body.

2. That we recommend to each of our Presbyteries to take the subject under serious consideration, and take such action as may seem to them proper.

No. 18. From the Presbytery of Chillicothe on the subject of slavery. The committee unanimously recommended the adoption of the following resolution, viz.:

Resolved, That it is inexpedient for the General Assembly to take any action on the subject of slavery. Which was laid on the table.

It was moved to reconsider the vote on Overtures Nos. 11 and 13. Which motion was put on the docket.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave to Mr. Gornley to be absent until Thursday afternoon, and to Mr. Green until this afternoon. Which was approved.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported, recommending that Dr. Krebs be appointed to preach on Saturday evening in the Fourth Presbyterian Church, in the place of Mr. White, who has left the city. Which was agreed to.

The annual report of the Directors of the Theological Seminary at Princeton was received and read, and

On motion, it was *Resolved*, That the report be approved, and printed in the Appendix to the *Minutes*.

On motion, it was *Resolved*, That in making nominations of persons to fill vacancies in the Board of Directors of the Theological Seminary at Princeton the rule requiring the roll to be called be suspended, and that nominations be made in open Assembly.

On motion, the Assembly proceeded to receive nominations for the purpose aforesaid, and the election was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day—viz. the report of the committee of the last Assembly on ordinations and on ministers demitting the exercise of their office; which was considered, and after debate, it was

On motion, *Resolved*, To recommit the report, and to add to the committee on the same Messrs. Hodge and Howe.

On motion, the unfinished business of yesterday—viz. the motion to postpone the resolution to dismiss Mr. McQueen's appeal—was taken up, when Dr. Breckinridge asked leave to withdraw the minute offered by him. Which was granted. And,

On motion of Dr. Breckinridge, Judicial Case No. 1, being the appeal of Archibald McQueen, was made the order of the day for Monday afternoon next.

And then the Assembly adjourned until this afternoon at 3½ o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday afternoon, 3½ o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day; when the annual report of the Board of Foreign Missions was presented and read by their Corresponding Secretary. And, on motion, it was referred to Messrs. Swift, Janvier, Lacy, Leete, and Dulty.

Dr. Breckinridge offered the following minute, which was adopted, viz.:

This General Assembly, looking forward to the approaching second centennial period of the Westminster Assembly as an era full of interest to the churches under its care, and to all other churches which adopt the Standards of Faith, Church Order, and Discipline prepared by that venerable body, and believing that the occasion can be so used as by the divine blessing greatly to promote the interests of truth; it is

Resolved, That a standing committee of ten members of this body shall be appointed, whose duty it shall be to mature a plan for a suitable commemoration of the aforesaid anniversary on the first day of July, 1843; to take such measures by correspondence with other denominations, whether at home or abroad, which adopt these standards, as may, as far as possible, secure their co-operation in such a commemoration; to invite the co-operation of all other denominations which are evangelical in doctrine and presbyterial in order; and to report their proceedings herein to the next General Assembly.

On motion, nominations were made for persons to fill vacancies in the Board of Directors of the Western Theological Seminary; and the election was made the second order of the day for to-morrow morning.

And then the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.
Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday morning, May 25th, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures reported Overtures Nos. 3 and 4, 9, 11, and 17. Which were disposed of as follows, viz.:

Nos. 3 and 4. Memorials from the Presbyteries of Western District and of Holly Springs on the subject of a new Synod to be composed of the Presbyteries of Western District, Arkansas, and Holly Springs. The committee recommended the adoption of the following resolution, viz.:

Resolved, That it is inexpedient to grant the petition contained in said memorials, inasmuch as the Synod of Tennessee has not been consulted, and the members of that Synod who are present object to such an arrangement; and that these Presbyteries respectively have leave to withdraw their papers on the subject.

Which was agreed to.

No. 9. A request from the Synod of Ohio that a part of the territory now within the bounds of the Synod of Cincinnati be separated from that Synod and attached to the Synod of Ohio. The committee recommended the adoption of the following resolution, viz.:

Resolved, That the request ought not to be granted, inasmuch as it is opposed by the Synod of Cincinnati, and, as the committee judge, for sufficient reasons.

Which was agreed to.

No. 11. A memorial from the Synod of Cincinnati for a new Synod to be composed of the Presbyteries of Sidney and Maumee, which belong to the Synod of Cincinnati, and the Presbytery of Marion, which belongs to the Synod of Ohio. The committee recommended that the request be not granted, inasmuch as it is opposed by the Synod of Ohio. Which was agreed to.

No. 17. Memorial from the Synod of New Jersey suggesting the licensure of probationers for the gospel ministry for a limited time, and requesting the Assembly to propose the adoption of a constitutional rule on the subject. The committee reported that they were unanimously of the opinion that the proposal of such a rule to be adopted by the Presbyteries is unnecessary, and would be inexpedient, as the case contemplated is sufficiently provided for in chapter 14, section 11, of our Constitution. Which was put on the docket.

The Judicial Committee reported Case No. 7, the complaint of D. Monfort, etc., against the Synod of Indiana, as in order. Which was put on the docket.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave to Mr. J. W. R. Phillips to be absent till Friday morning. Which was approved.

A report was received from the delegate to the General Conference of Maine; which was read and referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

A motion was made by Mr. Fullerton to take up and consider Overture No. 18, on the subject of slavery. Which was lost.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Ohio reported, recommending that the records be approved. The report was adopted.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Alabama reported that these records have not been put into their hands. On motion, the committee

was discharged, and it was *Resolved*, that the Synod be, and it hereby is, particularly enjoined to send up their records to the next Assembly.

The Assembly proceeded to the orders of the day; when Messrs. Pryor and Reynolds were appointed a committee to receive and count the ballots for Directors of the Princeton Theological Seminary and report the result. And Messrs. Platt and Dillard were appointed a committee to receive and count the ballots for Directors of the Western Theological Seminary, and report the result.

On motion, of Mr. McDonald, the order designating the sessions to be appropriated for judicial business was suspended. And it was resolved to take up case No. 3. The complaint of the First Church of Peoria against the Synod of Illinois. When

The Assembly sat in a judicial capacity, and the Moderator read the rule reminding the members of their high character as a court of Jesus Christ, and of the solemn duty in which they were about to act.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Mr. Samuel Lowry, who appears as the representative of the church of Peoria, be assisted by Dr. Phillips in the management of the case.

The documents pertaining thereto were read, as follows, viz.:

1. The minutes of the Synod of Illinois for A. D. 1839, pp. 28, 38, 44; the minutes of the commission of Synod; and an attested copy of the minutes of Synod for A. D. 1841, in the case.

2. The minutes of the General Assembly of A. D. 1840, pp. 127, and 140-141; and A. D. 1841, pp. 186, 188, 193.

3. Mr. Lowry's complaint.

On motion of Mr. Todd, on behalf of the Synod of Illinois, a private letter of the Rev. J. G. Bergen, reported as a part of the documents in the case, was omitted to be read, as having been intended to be used in the argument.

And then the court rose, and the Assembly resumed.

The committee on the Annual report of the Directors of the Western Theological Seminary and the memorial from the Presbytery made a report, which was considered, till

The Assembly adjourned until this afternoon at 3½ o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday afternoon, 3½ o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day, when the annual report of the Board of Missions was read by their corresponding Secretary. Addresses were made, and on motion the report was referred to Messrs. Howe, McFarland, Bell, Walton, and D. Montgomery.

The Rev. Morris W. Dwight, delegate from the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church, being about to leave the city, took leave of the Assembly.

The Stated Clerk reported that a number of the minutes of the General Association of New Hampshire had been received from that body. On motion,

Resolved, That one copy be given to each of our Synods and to each of the Assembly's Boards.

A report was received from the Stated Clerk, which was on motion adopted and entered on the minutes as follows, viz.:

The Stated Clerk of the General Assembly reports that no statistical reports have been received by him from the following Presbyteries—viz.

Sidney, Sangamon, Muhlenburg, West Tennessee, North Alabama, Charleston, Georgia, Flint River, Clinton, and Arkansas; and he respectfully suggests that the Assembly should renew their order to the Presbyteries to send up their reports *complete* and *in due season*, either by mail, which is preferable, or by Commissioners to the General Assembly.

He further reports that the following Synods have failed to comply with the requisition of the last Assembly in transmitting to the Stated Clerk of the Assembly notices of the times and places of their next annual meetings, with the names of their Stated Clerks—viz. Albany, Missouri, Kentucky, and Virginia.

(Signed)

WILLIAM M. ENGLES, *Stated Clerk*.

The committee on the subject of Lane Seminary, and the documents received in relation thereto from the heirs of Elnathan Kemper, made a report which was adopted as follows, viz. :

Resolved, That the Trustees of the General Assembly be requested to inquire into the facts relating to the Lane Seminary near the city of Cincinnati, and if they find that the proviso in the deed of the 9th of December, 1829, from Elnathan Kemper and others to the Trustees of the said Seminary has been disregarded by the appointment of "professors and teachers who are not members of the Presbyterian Church under the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America," that they take advice of counsel learned in the laws of the State of Ohio, and if they shall be advised that the laws of that State furnish an adequate remedy in the case, that they institute the proper proceeding to enforce the observance of the said proviso.

On motion,

Resolved, That a copy of the aforesaid resolution be transmitted to the Board of Trustees of the General Assembly, together with the copy of the deed referred to and the other documents in the case.

Nominations were made for persons to fill vacancies in the Board of Missions, and, on motion, the election was made the order of the day, immediately after the report of the committee on the annual report of that Board.

On motion, the unfinished business of this morning was taken up—viz. the report of the committee on the annual report of the Directors of the Western Theological Seminary, etc., which was further considered, amended, and adopted, as follows, viz. :

1. *Resolved*, That this General Assembly approve the Report of the Directors of the Western Theological Seminary; and that it be printed in the Appendix to the *Minutes*.

2. *Resolved*, That this Assembly will elect for the said Seminary a professor of Ecclesiastical History and Church Government.

3. *Resolved*, That the vacations of the Western Theological Seminary be so altered as to have but one session and one vacation during the year; leaving the precise time of beginning and closing the vacation to the said Board.

4. *Resolved*, That the sum of five thousand dollars be appropriated for the support of the professors of the Western Theological Seminary for the ensuing year.

And then the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock. Concluded with prayer.

Thursday morning, May 26th, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 5—viz. from

the Synod of Indiana respecting supplies for vacant churches. The committee moved the following minute, which was adopted, viz.:

Whereas, it appears from the statistical reports from various parts of our Church, and it is well known to this Assembly, that there are some Presbyteries which have more churches than ministers, and other Presbyteries which have unemployed ministers and licentiates under their care; therefore,

Resolved, That it be enjoined on all such Presbyteries to report these facts, with the names and locality of their vacant churches and unemployed ministers, to the Executive Committee of the Board of Missions, who are hereby appointed and authorized to act as a committee of supplies for the whole Church, by and with the concurrence of the Presbyteries.

The Committee on Leave of Absence made a report which was adopted as follows, viz.:

The Committee on Leave of Absence report that they have given leave to Messrs. Osterhoudt, Bartlett, and Dillard to be absent for the remaining sessions of the Assembly; and to Mr. Baldwin, to be absent until Monday next.

The committee would present to the consideration of the General Assembly as a serious evil the frequent applications on the part of Commissioners, especially of elders, for permission to return home within a few days after the coming together of the Assembly.

We believe that, according to the Constitution of the Church, the ruling elders are essential parts of our church judicatories; and if so, it is as important that they be present during the whole sessions of the judicatory as at its opening. Many of them have their traveling expenses paid by their Presbyteries with a view to secure their attendance, and yet comparatively few are willing to remain till the Assembly is dissolved. The committee have remarked that these applications for leave most commonly are made, not by those whose residence is far off from the place of our meeting, but by those who can reach their homes in a few hours. Under these views the committee are often embarrassed in regard to their proper course of duty. They would be kind and indulgent, but they desire too to be true to the trust committed to them; and they respectfully suggest to the Assembly the adoption of the following resolution, viz.:

Resolved, That the Presbyteries, in the appointment of Commissioners to the General Assembly, be directed to use great care and diligence in the selection of such ministers and ruling elders as will be willing and able to remain during the entire sessions of this body.

The Committee on Mileage made a report, which was adopted, as follows, viz.:

That there has been paid to the Treasurer of the Trustees of the General Assembly, on account of the Commissioners' Fund, the sum of \$625.63; that there was an order from last year to pay the Rev. James L. Sloss \$68.77, leaving a balance of \$556.86, to be divided; that there have been nine thousand eight hundred and ten miles traveled by the Commissioners who claim mileage in coming to the present Assembly; which at 5½ cents per mile will make \$551.86, leaving a balance of five dollars in the Commissioners' Fund this day; therefore, *Resolved*, That the Trustees of the General Assembly be directed to draw an order on their Treasurer for five hundred and fifty-one dollars and eighty-six cents, and that he be directed to pay the same to the several persons named in the schedule of receipts and claims thereon, in the proportion therein stated.

The committee made a further report on the subject of equalizing the expenses of the Assembly and of attending the same, which was considered, and on motion, it was recommitted, and Messrs. Finley and McRee were added to the committee.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported that Dr. Krebs has been appointed to preach in the Sixth Presbyterian Church this evening, in the place of Dr. Breckinridge, and Mr. Benedict in the Central Church to-morrow evening, in the place of the Moderator.

An overture was received from the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church proposing an alteration of the terms of correspondence between that Synod and the General Assembly, so as that hereafter the delegation shall consist only of one minister from each body. Which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

The committee to receive and count the ballots for Directors of the Theological Seminary at Princeton made a report; when it appeared that the following were elected:

For Three Years.

BISHOPS.

John McDowell, D. D.,
John N. Campbell, D. D.,
Benjamin H. Rice, D. D.,
William M. Engles, D. D.,
John Johnston,
George Potts, D. D.,
Cornelius C. Cuyler, D. D.

ELDERS.

Lewis W. R. Phillips,
Matthew L. Bevan,
Andrew Foster.

The committee to receive and count the ballots for Directors of the Western Theological Seminary reported, when it appeared that the following were elected:

For Three Years.

BISHOPS.

Francis Herron, D. D.,
Elisha P. Swift, D. D.,
Matthew Brown, D. D.,
James Alexander,
William B. McIlvain,
John Stockton,
Ebenezer Graham.

ELDERS.

Samuel Thompson,
Benjamin Williams,
Robert C. Grier.

For Two Years.

Malcom Leach.

For One Year.

Absalom McCready.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day—viz. appointing a place for the meeting of the General Assembly; when a majority of all the voices having been given for Philadelphia, it was

Resolved, That the next stated meeting of the General Assembly be held in the city of Philadelphia, and that the Permanent and Stated Clerks be a committee to designate the place therein.

A report was received from the committee appointed by the last Assembly to provide means to supply the deficiency in the permanent funds; which was read and referred to the Committee of Finance.

The Committee on the annual report of the Board of Foreign Missions made a report, which was considered, until

The Assembly adjourned until this afternoon at 3½ o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday afternoon, 3½ o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee of Commissioners reported an additional Commissioner—viz. James S. McComb, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Mississippi, who was enrolled.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day; when the annual report of the Board of Education was presented and read by their Corresponding Secretary; and, on motion, it was referred to Messrs. McFarland, Dumont, Todd, F. A. Ewing, and Campbell.

The unfinished business of this morning was taken up—viz. the Report of the committee on the annual report of the Board of Foreign Missions, which was further considered, and, on motion, it was recommitted.

A communication was received from the Trustees of the General Assembly reporting their action in relation to the resolutions of the last Assembly concerning the investment and transfer of the custody of permanent funds belonging to Princeton Seminary to the Trustees thereof, which was read and referred to the Committee of Finance. And, on motion, Messrs. M. McLean, Reynolds, and Cazenove were added to the committee.

The annual report of the Trustees of the Princeton Theological Seminary was received, read, and referred to the Committee of Finance.

And then the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow morning, at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday morning, May 27th, 1842.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

On motion, Judicial case No. 5, "The appeal of Abigail Hanna from the Synod of Wheeling," was taken up and recommitted to the Judicial Committee.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave to Messrs. Ferrie, Bryant, Goodale, and Campbell to be absent during the remainder of the sessions; which was approved.

It was moved to reconsider the vote adopting the resolution to instruct the Board of Trustees of the General Assembly in relation to Lane Seminary.

After debate, the motion prevailed. So the Assembly resolved to reconsider; and, on motion, it was

Resolved, That the whole subject be indefinitely postponed. Yeas 65—Nays 52.

Resolved, That the documents in the case of Lane Seminary be recalled from the Board of Trustees, and returned to the persons by whom they were sent to this body.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises made a report of the appointments for preaching during the ensuing week; which was adopted, viz.:

On the next Lord's Day, morning—Mr. Chester, in the Union Methodist Church.

Evening—Mr. Van Court, in the same place.

On Monday evening—Mr. Platt, in the Central Presbyterian Church.

On Tuesday evening—Mr. McDonald, in the Ninth Presbyterian Church.

On Wednesday evening—Mr. B. M. Smith, in the Eighth Presbyterian Church.

On Thursday evening—Mr. Pryor, in the Second Presbyterian Church.

On Friday evening—Dr. Howe, in the Central Presbyterian Church.

On Saturday evening—Mr. Fulton, in the Sixth Presbyterian Church.

And then the Assembly adjourned until this afternoon, at 3½ o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday afternoon, 3½ o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Moderator appointed the following to be the Standing Committee on the Commemoration of the Westminster Assembly—viz. Messrs. Robert J. Breckinridge, John M. Krebs, Charles Hodge, Drury Lacy, William W. Phillips, Alexander Macklin, George Howe, Robert Stuart, Benjamin M. Smith, Wm. Chester.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day, when the annual report of the Board of Publication was presented and read by their Corresponding Secretary; and, on motion, it was referred to Messrs. Hodge, Chester, B. M. Smith, McIntyre, and W. B. Ewing.

The committee on the overtures from the Presbytery of Lodiana on the subject of baptism made a report; which was put on the docket.

The committee on the annual report of the Board of Foreign Missions made a report, which was adopted, as follows, viz.:

The committee to whom was referred the annual report of the Board of Foreign Missions would submit the following report:

The important document submitted to the examination of your Committee is one which in the cause it advocates, the facts and information it offers, and the appeals it contains is well calculated to awaken peculiar emotions in the breasts of the members of this General Assembly and those of the officers and members of our Church generally—sentiments of gratitude and praise to God for having permitted our Church to take an honored place in the ranks of the consecrated hosts of God, which are now moving forward in the glorious enterprise of the world's conversion, and for the success with which he has been pleased thus far to crown her efforts to send forth the riches of his salvation to distant portions of the earth; the feelings of a common and solemn obligation resting upon us and our successors in this communion, collectively and individually, to persevere in this hallowed enterprise, and renew and augment our contributions and our prayers until the spiritual dominion of the world is given to Christ, and the promised triumphs of his grace are realized among all nations; and it is also calculated to awaken the feelings of sorrow in our hearts, and grief and self-abasement before God, that we are as a community and a generation of Christians doing so little in proportion to our ability and our obligations to the Saviour of the world for the benighted and perishing heathen—that so many of our churches seem unanxious and unwilling to share in the blessing which God will surely shed forth upon those, and those only, whose hearts and hands are open for the spread of the Redeemer's kingdom; and that the exertions of our Board are to so great an extent circumscribed and restrained by the want of necessary funds to carry on the work. Our condition and our duty as a denomination in respect to this department of our work plainly show that the state of the world must be still more plainly laid before our churches—missionary information far more extensively disseminated—obligation to Christ and the interests of his kingdom more earnestly inculcated, and the duty and blessedness of fervent and persevering prayer for the spread of his everlasting gospel more constantly set forth and urged upon the followers of Christ. In view of these considerations, the committee would propose the following resolutions, viz.:

1. *Resolved*, That the annual report of the Board be approved, and referred to the Executive Committee for publication and distribution among the churches as extensively as may be found practicable.

2. *Resolved*, That the Foreign Missionary cause obviously claims from our Church a great augmentation of funds, and this Assembly cordially approve of the suggestion that an effort be made to raise and place at the

disposal of the Board the sum of \$100,000 for the expenses of the coming year, and that sum or more annually thereafter, believing that such an offering would eminently redound to her own temporal and spiritual welfare, as well as to the glory of God.

3. *Resolved*, That in order to call the attention of our churches in a special manner to such an endeavor and to the throne of grace, to humble ourselves before God and implore the aids of his Holy Spirit and his blessing upon the cause of Missions in general, the first Monday of October next be, and the same hereby is, appointed and set apart as a day of public instruction on the subject of Foreign Missions, and of supplication and prayer throughout the bounds of our Church, to the intent that our past sins and neglect may be duly recognized and deplored; our duty to the heathen distinctly set before the churches; our dependence upon the grace of God in this matter clearly presented, and the influences of the Holy Spirit upon ourselves and our missionary stations fervently invoked. And it is herein further recommended to all our Presbyteries to take order for a similar observance, and with a similar view, of the first Monday in January annually.

4. *Resolved*, That this General Assembly highly approve of the proposal of the Executive Committee to establish a small monthly paper, to be denominated *The Foreign Missionary*, to be afforded to subscribers at the small sum of twelve and a half cents per annum, exclusive of postage, in the belief that with a little exertion on the part of pastors and church Sessions there may be annually circulated among our people and the youth and children of our congregations and Sabbath-schools from fifty to one hundred thousand of copies of a work thus calculated and adapted to furnish a great amount of select Missionary information.

On motion of Mr. Dulty,

Resolved, That this General Assembly earnestly recommend to the bishops and elders under its care to take special pains in directing the attention of the children and youth of the Church to the great subject of Missions, and in order to do this more effectually advise the formation of juvenile Missionary Societies wherever practicable, in every Sabbath-school throughout the bounds of the Church.

On motion, nominations were made for persons to fill vacancies in the Board of Foreign Missions. And the election was made the order of the day at nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

On motion, nominations were made for persons to fill vacancies in the Board of Education. And the election was made the second order of the day for nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

The committee on the annual report of the Board of Missions made a report which was adopted, as follows, viz.:

The committee to whom was referred the report of the Board of Missions beg leave to recommend for adoption the following resolutions:

1. *Resolved*, That this General Assembly is called upon to express its gratitude to God that amidst the almost unexampled embarrassments of the times he has enabled their Board of Domestic Missions to prosecute the work entrusted to them, not only without diminution, but with increased success.

2. That the employment of two hundred and eighty-six ministers, preaching the everlasting gospel to more than eight hundred congregations and in twenty-three States and Territories; the addition to the visible Church of more than two thousand souls by the instrumentality of those ministers led to Christ; the gathering of sixty new churches and the erection of sixty or more houses of worship; the instruction of twenty thousand youth in Sabbath-schools and in the Catechisms of our Church; and the wide dissemina-

tion of the books of the Board of Publication by the labors of these ministers through so many new and destitute settlements during the past year, are striking proofs that this Board is one of the most important and useful agencies of the Church for the extension of the Redeemer's kingdom through the earth.

3. That the condition of the population of wide portions especially of our Southern and Western States not only justifies, but *requires*, the employment of evangelists engaged in itinerant labors, and that pastors are called upon in all such regions to inquire if they cannot extend their labors beyond the bounds of their own congregations, occupy new stations for preaching, gather new churches, and with the consent of their own people spend some portion of their time in missionary labors.

4. That it behoves our several Presbyteries to take a careful survey of the territory within their respective bounds, inquire whether the population residing there is fully supplied with the ordinances of the gospel and in habitual attendance on the worship of God, and to take such measures as their wisdom may suggest to establish at all proper points the preaching of the word and the ordinances of God's house.

5. That the report of the Board of Missions be approved by this Assembly, and be recommended to the attention of our Synods, Presbyteries, churches, and members, and that it be returned to the Board for publication as they shall see fit.

On motion, the Assembly sat in a judicial capacity, and resumed the consideration of case No. 1. Mr. Lowry was heard in behalf of the complainants. And then the court rose, and the Assembly resumed.

On motion, the report of the committee appointed by the last Assembly on a Directory for Adult Baptism, etc. was taken up and made the order of the day for Tuesday morning next.

And then the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday morning, May 28, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Assembly proceeded to the orders of the day; when the following persons were elected members of the Board of Foreign Missions.

For Four Years.

MINISTERS.

John T. Edgar, D. D.,
Archibald Alexander, D. D.,
William Atkinson,
John C. Backus,
Wm. C. Anderson,
Peyton Harrison,
Henry A. Boardman,
Robert J. Breckinridge, D. D.,
John N. Campbell, D. D.,
Henry R. Weed, D. D.,
Henry R. Wilson,
Samuel B. Wilson, D. D.,
William M. Engles, D. D.,
William Neill, D. D.,
Richard W. Dickinson.

LAYMEN.

James Adger,
James Agnew,
John H. Hill,
Moses Allen,
Solomon Allen,
Samuel C. Anderson,
Hugh Auchincloss,
Walter Lowrie,
George Brown,
Charles Chauncey,
Harmar Denny,
William Shear,
Edgar C. Wilson,
William Steele,
William Dulty.

For Three Years.

MINISTERS.

John N. C. Grier, D. D.

LAYMEN.

Cyrenius Beers.

For Two Years.

Robert C. Grier.

BOARD OF MISSIONS.

For Three Years.

William S. Plumer, D. D.,
 James Hoge, D. D.,
 Jacob J. Janeway, D. D.,
 Henry A. Boardman,
 John Gray,
 Francis McFarland, D. D.,
 William S. Potts, D. D.,
 David Magie,
 Joseph S. Jones.

William Shear,
 Samuel Thompson,
 Matthew Newkirk,
 Thomas Henderson,
 George Morris,
 Robert Wallace.

For Two Years.

John M. Krebs, D. D.,
 Jacob Green.

Francis Bailey,
 James Dunlap.

BOARD OF EDUCATION.

For Four Years.

Samuel Miller, D. D.,
 Joseph H. Jones,
 Francis Herron, D. D.,
 Cornelius C. Cuyler, D. D.,
 Henry A. Boardman,
 Francis McFarland, D. D.,
 William B. Sprague, D. D.,
 William M. Engles, D. D.

William Maxwell,
 Stephen Colwell,
 Thomas Bradford,
 A. J. Miller,
 James Lenox,
 James Dunlap,
 James N. Dickson,
 George Morris.

For Two Years.

John H. Gray,
 William L. Breckinridge.

William Walton.

For One Year.

William Chester.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave to Messrs. A. Thompson, Stiger, Sample, W. B. Ewing, Root, Potter, and Roller for the remainder of the sessions; and to Mr. Kelton until Wednesday morning; which was approved.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures reported a resolution, interpreting the act of 1838 (printed *Minutes*, pp. 34, etc.), which was read and put on the docket.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence made a report which was adopted as follows, viz.:

Resolved, That the request of the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church, contained in their printed *Minutes* for 1841, for such an "alteration of the terms of correspondence between them and this body as that hereafter the delegation to and from them shall consist of one minister only," be concurred in by this Assembly.

The committee further reported a letter to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland; which was amended, and then the letter was approved; and it was ordered that the same be signed by the Moderator and Clerks of this Assembly, and transmitted to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland.

The committees on the records of the Synods of Albany, New York, New Jersey, Pittsburgh, Kentucky, Virginia, North Carolina, West Tennessee, and Missouri severally reported; and all these records were approved.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Mississippi reported, and the records were approved with the following exception—viz. "that on page 321 the Synod acknowledges the constitutionality of a meeting of the Presbytery of Clinton that had been called by a Moderator chosen *pro tempore* at a previous *pro re nata* meeting, instead of being called by the Moderator appointed at the last stated meeting of the Presbytery."

The committee on the subject of hasty ordinations again reported; and their report was considered, amended, and adopted as follows, viz.:

The Moderator of the last General Assembly submitted to the Committee of Overtures a minute in regard to hasty ordination of ministers of the gospel, and to unauthorized demission of their covenanted employment by ministers; which that committee reported to the Assembly (Overture No. 11, p. 167, printed *Minutes* of 1841), and which, being considered, was referred to a select committee (p. 168), the report of which, together with the original minute, was, by order of the Assembly (p. 190), referred to another select committee, which was directed to report to the Assembly of 1842; which last-named committee, having considered the subject, submit the following minute as their report, viz.:

I. That as persons are liable to mistake their calling, and as the office of the ministry is, by God's institution, a permanent one, which cannot be laid aside at pleasure, Presbyteries ought to exercise great caution in ordaining ministers of the gospel. And they are hereby enjoined not to ordain any one to the pastoral office until full proof has been made of him as a licentiate by the Presbytery that ordains him.

II. As one great evidence of a divine call to the work of the ministry is the call of a particular congregation, it is especially necessary to use great caution in ordinations *sine titulo*; and the Presbyteries are enjoined not to proceed to such ordinations except in the cases provided for in our Form of Government.

III. That the Presbyteries are especially enjoined not to ordain their licentiates when they are about to remove into the bounds of other Presbyteries, but to dismiss them as licentiates.

IV. That, as intimately connected with this subject, Presbyteries ought to have a special oversight of the settlement of ministers in vacant churches, as by the word of God and the standards of the Church they are empowered and directed. And that in all such settlements it is in itself right, and would tend to establish proper order and the due supervision of Presbyteries, and to break up irregular influences and residences, that vacant churches should apply to their own Presbyteries for supplies.

V. That permanent ministerial connection with any Presbytery except that in whose bounds the individual lives is irregular and disorderly, and ought not to be allowed. But where the residence is not in the bounds of any of

our Presbyteries (as in the case of foreign missionaries) the connection may be with either of them.

VI. That the relation of *stated supply*, which has grown up between many of our churches and ministers, is unknown to our system, and tends to disorder and injury in many ways. The Presbyteries are therefore directed to supplant it, as far as possible, in all cases by the regular pastoral relation, and to discountenance it as a permanent relation.

VII. That those ministers who give up the regular and stated work of the gospel ministry as their main work, except it be for reasons satisfactory to their Presbyteries, should be called to an account by the Presbyteries to which they belong, and dealt with according to the merits of their respective cases. And the justifiable cause for which any minister gives up his work should be stated on the minutes of his Presbytery at the time with the approval of the body.

VIII. That all our Presbyteries be directed, at their first stated meeting after the rising of this Assembly, to require such ministers in their bounds as are not regularly engaged in their covenanted work as their chief business to give an account of themselves; and the Presbyteries shall take such order in the premises as is consistent with this minute, and report their doings specially to their respective Synods and to the next Assembly.

IX. The whole object of this action is to enforce the true principles of our standards in regard to the calling and work of the gospel ministry, and to correct errors and irregularities which have sprung up in various places. And for effectual reform in the premises the whole subject is commended to the special attention of all our Synods and Presbyteries. And nothing herein is to be construed as any disparagement of the true office and work of an evangelist, which is scriptural, permanent, and most important, and on that very account the more carefully to be guarded, lest it become a pretext and covering for deceived persons or for intruders into the holy work of the gospel ministry.

X. *Resolved*, That it be referred to the Presbyteries whether the following section shall be added to the 15th chapter of our Form of Government, viz.:

The office of a minister of the gospel is perpetual, and cannot be laid aside at pleasure; yet any minister may, with the permission of his Presbytery, demit the exercise of his office; and when any minister has thus demitted the exercise of his office he shall not be permitted to sit as a member of any of our ecclesiastical judicatories. And any minister having so demitted the exercise of his office may, on personal application to the Presbytery which allowed him to demit it, if said Presbytery think proper, be by it restored to the exercise thereof and to all the rights incident thereto.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported that Mr. Lord had been appointed to conduct a religious service in the Seventh Presbyterian Church on Monday evening, instead of the appointment previously made for that evening. Which was approved.

And then the Assembly adjourned until Monday morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday morning, May 30, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Judicial Committee made a report which was adopted as follows, viz.:

In the case of Hanna against the Synod of Wheeling, which has been already reported to the Assembly and entered upon the docket, marked No. 5, but which at the request of the Judicial Committee was recommitted, the

committee report that having more thoroughly investigated and maturely considered all the papers brought up to this Assembly, they find them irregular and informal, and recommend to the Assembly the following order: That the case be remitted to the Synod, with the injunction to that body that they send up to the next General Assembly full and authentic records of all the proceedings and testimony in the case, according to the requirement of the Book of Discipline, chapter 7, section 3, article 16.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence reported a letter to the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland; which was approved, and it was ordered that the same be signed by the Moderator and Clerks, and transmitted.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day—viz. the report of the Committee of Psalmody. When, on motion of Dr. Howe, it was

Resolved, That the report of the committee be accepted, and printed in the Appendix to the *Minutes*.

The following resolution was then offered by Dr. Howe, viz.:

Resolved, That the Book of Hymns selected by the committee be approved by this Assembly, and be allowed to be used by all our churches.

Dr. McFarland moved to amend the motion, so as to refer the book to the Presbyteries for their approval. And after debate the motion was lost. Yeas 50, Nays 57.

It was then moved to amend the book by striking out Hymn 199, on account of the first verse, lines third and fourth, viz.:

“Here a pure and healing fountain
Flows for every guilty soul.”

Which was lost.

Moved to strike out Hymn 654, viz.:

“Morn is the time to wake,” etc.

Which was lost.

Moved to strike out from Hymn 314 verse third, viz.:

“Bold shall I stand in that great day,
For who aught to my charge shall lay?
While through thy blood absolved I am
From sin's tremendous curse and shame.”

Which was lost.

Moved to strike out from Hymn 290 verse sixth, viz.:

“That blest moment I received him
Filled my soul with joy and peace;
Love I much, I'm much forgiven,
I'm a miracle of grace.”

Which was lost.

Moved to strike out Hymn 51, viz.:

“When marshal'd on the nightly plain,” etc.

Which was lost.

Moved to strike out Hymn 538, viz.:

“Hark to the solemn bell,” etc.

Which was lost.

Moved to strike out Hymn 96, viz.:

“But when armed with vengeance, in terror he comes,” etc.

Which was lost.

Moved to strike out from Hymn 192 verse fourth, viz.:

“Am I call’d? I am, I am,
Meanest follower of the Lamb;
Am I call’d? O joy of joys!
Earth, I spurn thy gilded toys;
Wash’d, redeemed, by precious blood,
Heir of bliss, a child of God.”

Which was lost.

And after debate, on motion, the book was amended, as follows, viz.: “To Hymn 250 add verse fourth from Watts, viz.:

“So on a tree divinely fair,” etc.

From Hymn No. 507 strike out last two lines of verse first and first two lines of verse second, thus, viz.:

“And while the lamp holds out to burn
The vilest sinner may return.
Life is the hour that God has given
To escape from hell and fly to heaven.”

In Hymn 177, verse second, line first, change “fate” to “death.”

In Hymn 154 strike out the title.

And then,

On motion of Dr. Hodge, it was

Resolved, That the Book of Hymns be referred back to the Committee on Psalmody, with directions to make such alterations as their own judgment or the suggestions of others may dictate, and to report it together with the Book of Psalms to the next Assembly.

And then the Assembly adjourned until this afternoon at 3½ o’clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday afternoon, 3½ o’clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Dr. Krebs gave notice that at a convenient time he would move to reconsider the resolution of this morning by which the Book of Hymns was recommended to the Committee on Psalmody with instructions; on which motion not having voted, he was therefore considered as having voted with the majority.

On motion, the Assembly sat in a judicial capacity; when the order of the day—viz. case No. 1—was postponed, and the court resumed the case No. 3. And Dr. Phillips was heard on behalf of the complainants. The Synod were fully heard through Messrs. J. Montgomery and Todd. And the parties having been fully heard,

The court rose.

And then the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o’clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday morning, May 31, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

On motion, it was *Resolved*, to proceed to the election of a delegate to the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church. When the Rev. Dr. Samuel Miller was chosen as principal, and the Rev. Melancthon W. Jacobus as alternate.

On motion, the resolution reported by the Committee of Bills and Ordinances to interpret the act of 1838 (printed *Minutes* pp. 34, etc.) was taken up and unanimously adopted, viz.:

Whereas, it is believed by this Assembly that there are ministers and churches and private Christians within our bounds holding the same doctrines and maintaining the same church order with us, but who from a misapprehension of the acts of the Assembly of 1838 are not in our communion; and whereas, as it is expressed in Act II. adopted by that Assembly, it was never the intention of the General Assembly to cause any sound Presbyterian to be permanently separated from our connection, but it is and always was the desire of the Church that all who really embrace our doctrine, love our order, and are willing to conform to our discipline should unite themselves with us; and moreover, as the General Assembly has no idea of narrowing, but would rather expand its geographical limits so as to unite in bonds of the most intimate fellowship every evangelical Church like-minded with ourselves throughout every portion of our beloved country; therefore

1. *Resolved*, That it is hereby declared by the General Assembly, that in requiring an adherence to our Church on the basis of the Assemblies of 1837 and 1838 they did not create nor introduce any new basis of Presbyterianism, but required an adherence to the true and only basis of our organization and communion—viz. the doctrinal standards and constitution of our Church as founded on the word of God, a deplorable departure from which had been suffered through the operation of the Plan of Union.

2. *Resolved*, That it was not then, and it is not now, required of those who would adhere to us as a branch of the Church of Christ that, as a term of membership in this Church, they should approve the acts of the Assembly of 1837 and 1838, but simply that they should recognize the Church as then and subsequently constituted as the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, and acknowledge their subjection to its judicatories.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave to Messrs. Spence, D. Brown, Avery, and W. H. White for the remainder of the session. Which was approved.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence made a report, which was adopted, as follows, viz.:

That the election of delegates to corresponding bodies be the order of the day for Thursday morning.

On motion, The order of the day was postponed, and the Assembly sat in a judicial capacity, and the court resumed the consideration of case No. 3, the complaint of the First Church of Peoria. And after debate, on motion of Mr. B. M. Smith, the question was taken—*Shall the complaint be sustained?* which was decided and the yeas and nays recorded as follows, viz.:

YEAS—Messrs. Reed, Huntington, Sherwood, Davidson, Benedict, Beers, Krebs, Foster, Studdiford, F. A. Ewing, Fox, Macklin, Janvier, Latta, Nelson, Betts, Stonerod, Lea, James Montgomery, Hill, Morrow, Guy, McBride, Braddock, College, Aikin, Denton, Gornley, Stone, McDonald, Lattimore, Smock, Prince, Newell, Templeton, McFarland, Stanton, J. Brown, McIver, Reynolds, Harris, Fosbrook, English, M. McLean, Finley, McCombs—46.

NAYS—Messrs. Van Keuren, Graham, Carle, Townley, Ramsay, Dumont, Winans, Hale, L. W. R. Phillips, Hodge, Gaston, Clark, Robbins, Platt, Lord, Sargent, Dulty, Andrews, Jenks, Wynkoop, Breckinridge, Cazenove, Moody, W. R. Smith, Greer, Hassinger, W. T. Smith, J. G. Wilson, Kerr, J. Talmage, S. M. Wilson, Hutchinson, Shearer, Fullerton, Galloway, McIntyre, Cozad, D. T. Stuart, Harbison, R. Stuart, Condit, B. M. Smith, M. Wilson, L. F. Wilson, Leete, Howe, McRee, Walton, Hadden, J. B. Thompson, E. T. McLean, Weatherby—52.

NON LIQUET.—Messrs. Swift, Walker, Anderson, Pryor, Lacy, Cummings, Frontis, Van Court, Caldwell—9.

So the House refused to sustain the complaint.

Whereupon, on motion of Dr. Krebs,

Resolved, That the censure which was laid by the Assembly of 1840 upon the Rev. Mr. Kellar, the Presbytery of Peoria, and the Synod of Illinois be and the same is hereby removed.

Dr. Krebs then offered the following minute, viz.:

Resolved, (1) That the Synod of Illinois and its commission erred by transcending their powers and the directions of the General Assembly of 1840 when they dissolved the First Church of Peoria.

(2) That the Presbytery of Peoria be and it is hereby directed to restore the name of the aforesaid First Church of Peoria to its roll, the same being, and it is hereby declared to be, a constituent part of the Presbytery of Peoria and of the Synod of Illinois.

(3) That to prevent all future misconstruction the Church of Peoria created by the commission as approved by the Synod of Illinois be and it is hereby recognized and declared to be the Second Church of Peoria.

Which was decided, as follows, viz.:

The first section was adopted, and the yeas and nays recorded as follows, viz.

YEAS.—Messrs. Reed, Huntington, Sherwood, Davidson, Graham, Benedict, Townley, Beers, Krebs, Hale, L. W. R. Phillips, F. A. Ewing, Clark, Robbins, Foster, Fox, Studdiford, Macklin, Janvier, Latta, Nelson, Betts, Stoneroad, Hill, Morrow, Lea, Guy, McBride, James Montgomery, Braddock, College, Hutchinson, Gormley, Aiken, Shearer, Denton, Stone, McDonald, Lattimore, Smock, Prince, Newell, Templeton, McFarland, Stanton, Pryor, McIver, Reynolds, Harris, Fosbrook, English, M. McLean, Hadden, Finley, McCombs—55.

NAYS.—Messrs. Van Keuren, Carle, Ramsey, Dumont, Winans, Hodge, Gaston, Lord, Sargent, Dulty, Andrews, Jenks, Wynkoop, Cazenove, Moody, Wm. R. Smith, Greer, Hassinger, W. T. Smith, James G. Wilson, Kerr, J. Talmage, S. M. Wilson, Fullerton, Galloway, McIntyre, Cozad, D. T. Stuart, Harbison, R. Stuart, Condit, B. M. Smith, M. Wilson, L. F. Wilson, J. Brown, Leete, Van Court, Howe, McRee, Walton, J. B. Thompson, E. T. McLean, Weatherby—43.

NON LIQUET.—Messrs. Platt, Anderson and Caldwell—3.

The second section was adopted, and the yeas and nays recorded as follows, viz.:

YEAS.—Messrs. Reed, Huntington, Sherwood, Davidson, Van Keuren, Graham, Benedict, Townley, Beers, Krebs, Winans, Hale, F. A. Ewing, Clark, Foster, Fox, Studdiford, Macklin, Andrews, Janvier, Latta, Cazenove, Nelson, Betts, Stoneroad, Hill, Morrow, Lea, Guy, McBride, Braddock, College, Gormley, Aiken, Denton, Stone, Fullerton, McDonald, McIntyre, Lattimore, Smock, Prince, Newell, D. T. Stuart, Templeton, McFarland, Stanton, Pryor, McIver, Reynolds, Harris, Fosbrook, English, M. McLean, Finley, McCombs—56.

NAYS.—Messrs. Carle, Ramsay, Dumont, L. W. R. Phillips, Hodge, Gaston, Lord, Sargent, Jenks, Wynkoop, Breekinridge, Moody, W. R. Smith, Greer, Hassinger, W. T. Smith, J. G. Wilson, Kerr, J. Talmage, S. M. Wilson, Shearer, Galloway, Cozad, Harbison, R. Stuart, Condit, B. M. Smith, M. Wilson, L. F. Wilson, J. Brown, Leete, Caldwell, Howe, McRee, Walton, J. B. Thompson, E. T. McLean, Weatherby—38.

The *third* section was then adopted; and it was moved to adopt the whole minute. Pending the motion,

The court rose;

And then the Assembly adjourned until this afternoon at 3½ o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday afternoon, 3½ o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

On motion, the Assembly sat in a judicial capacity, and the court resumed the case No. 3. When the whole minute which was offered by Dr. Krebs, and agreed to by sections this morning, was adopted, and the yeas and nays recorded, as follows, viz.:

YEAS.—Messrs. Reed, Sherwood, Davidson, Graham, Benedict, Townley, Beers, Krebs, Winans, Clark, Foster, Fox, Macklin, Janvier, Nelson, Betts, Stoneroad, Hill, Morrow, Lea, McBride, James Montgomery, Braddock, Hutchinson, Gormley, Aiken, Denton, Stone, Lattimore, Smoek, Prince, Newell, Templeton, McFarland, Stanton, Pryor, Melver, Reynolds, Van Court, Harris, Fosbrook, English, M. McLean, Finley, McCombs—45.

NAYS.—Messrs. Van Keuren, Carle, Ramsay, Cochran, Hodge, Lord, Sargent, Andrews, Jenks, Wynkoop, Breekinridge, W. R. Smith, Greer, Hassinger, W. T. Smith, J. G. Wilson, Kerr, J. Talmage, S. M. Wilson, Shearer, Fullerton, Galloway, McIntyre, Cozad, R. Stuart, Harbison, Condit, B. M. Smith, M. Wilson, J. Brown, Leete, Caldwell, Howe, McRee, Walton, J. B. Thompson, E. T. McLean, Weatherby—38.

On motion, case No. 1, the appeal of Mr. McQueen, was taken up. Mr. Stanton was excused, and Dr. Krebs was appointed in place of Mr. Stanton, the counsel of Mr. McQueen.

The *sentence* appealed from, the appellant's *reasons*, and the whole record of the Presbytery of Fayetteville in the case were read.

And then the court rose, and the Assembly resumed.

The committee on the annual report of the Board of Education made a report, which was considered and adopted as follows, viz.:

The committee to whom was referred the annual report of the Board of Education would recommend the adoption of the following minute—viz. Whereas the General Assembly at its last meeting, seeing that the number of their candidates for the ministry was from year to year diminishing, felt constrained to recognize their entire dependence on God for their increase and the impotence of all human organizations without the divine blessing; and whereas, under this sense of dependence, the last General Assembly earnestly recommended to all the churches to betake themselves to the Lord of the harvest in fervent and importunate prayer on a day fixed upon for that purpose; and as we find from the report of the Board of Education that God has in a very remarkable manner answered those prayers in a speedy and large increase of candidates for the ministry, therefore

Resolved, 1. That this Assembly do not ascribe this success to the wisdom or efficiency of their plans of operation, but entirely to the blessing of God, and do therefore call upon the churches to give him all the glory.

Resolved, 2. That the Assembly regard this but as the first-fruits of a

great and glorious harvest which they may reap if they faint not; and that while they should render thanks for mercies received, *they should pray without ceasing* till the number of laborers is sufficient to gather the great harvest.

They would therefore earnestly recommend to all their ministers and churches, that on the first Sabbath in November, the same day of the year in which our God has heard our prayers, united thanksgiving and praise be rendered to his adorable name for his condescension and grace; and that at the same time fervent and importunate prayer be offered that he would continue to pour out his Spirit, and even more abundantly, and incline the hearts of many more to preach the gospel to a perishing world.

Resolved, 3. That on the same day, if convenient, it be recommended to all our ministers to preach on "the influence of a pious and learned ministry on the temporal and eternal happiness of mankind, and the necessity for increasing such a ministry."

Resolved, 4. That inasmuch as God has heard our prayers, and increased the number of the candidates under the care of our Board of Education, and, we trust, will grant us a still larger increase, it is the *indispensable duty* of our churches to provide for them the necessary aid in the prosecution of their studies. This can probably be better accomplished by bringing the churches more universally to co-operate in this work than to strive for larger contributions from those churches which now give liberally. It is therefore enjoined on all the Presbyteries to adopt such measures as they may deem best to secure the accomplishment of this purpose. Also, that the Synods inquire whether the Presbyteries have taken due order on this subject.

Resolved, 5. That the General Assembly earnestly recommend to the Board of Education to avail themselves, as far as possible, of our system of ecclesiastical organization, believing that with the wise and hearty co-operation of our inferior judicatories they can most economically and successfully carry forward their great enterprise. The Assembly would also express their great gratification that so many pastors have rendered, and propose to render, gratuitous services to the Board, and would warmly recommend to all who have it in their power to render such services to do it willingly, and thus save the Board from what may otherwise be indispensable—the employment of more agents.

Resolved, 6. That the Assembly deem it of great importance that all the Presbyteries should take upon themselves directly the important duty of selecting, examining, and recommending to the patronage of the Board all the beneficiaries belonging to their churches, and of watching over them during every stage of their progress in their preparation for the ministry, agreeably to the general principles stated in their annual report.

Finally, That the report be approved, and referred to the Board for publication.

Mr. Fullerton moved to take up Overture No. 18, on the subject of slavery, which was lost.

On motion of Mr. B. M. Smith, the following minute was adopted, viz.:

The General Assembly, impressed with the importance of making more decided and prompt efforts to secure from all the members of its communion systematic contributions to the funds of the Board of Foreign Missions, HEREBY ENJOINS on all the Presbyteries which have not already anticipated such action—1st, to require of every pastor and minister supplying a church, and of the Sessions of all vacant churches, the adoption of some plan by which, if possible, all members of their respective congregations shall hear the claims of this great Christian charity, and annually enjoy an opportunity of contributing to its sustenance to the extent of their ability, however limited; and 2d, to embody in their annual Presbyterial report to the General

Assembly an account of the diligence of the Presbytery and the success of its efforts in this matter.

On motion, the election of a professor of Ecclesiastical History in the Western Theological Seminary was made the order of the day for Thursday afternoon next. The Assembly engaged in prayer; and then Dr. Swift nominated the Rev. Alexander McGill.

On motion, judicial case No. 6 was taken up, and made the order of the day immediately after the decision of the appeal of Mr. McQueen.

On motion, the report of the committee appointed by the last Assembly on a directory for the Baptism of Adults was taken up and considered, until

The Assembly adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday morning, June 1st, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

On motion, Messrs. McDonald, Smock, and Newell were added to the Committee on Mileage.

The Committee on the Narrative of the State of Religion made a report, which was read, and after debate, on motion, it was laid on the table.

The committee on the annual report of the Board of Publication made a report which was considered, and, after debate,

The Assembly adjourned until this afternoon at 3½ o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday afternoon, 3½ o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence made a report, which was adopted, as follows:

That it seems to have been the intention of the General Assembly in fixing the rates of mileage of delegates to meet only their reasonable expenses; therefore,

Resolved, That the General Assembly issue a warrant to their Treasurer to pay Mr. Prime or order the sum of twelve dollars and fifty cents, the amount expended by him in attending upon the Associations of Connecticut and Massachusetts.

On motion, the Assembly sat in a judicial capacity, and the court resumed Case No. 2—viz. the appeal of Mr. McQueen, when Dr. Krebs was heard on behalf of the appellant, but before he finished, the court rose and the Assembly resumed.

On motion, the unfinished business of this morning was resumed—viz. the consideration of the report of the committee on the annual report of the Board of Publication; which, having been amended, was adopted as follows, viz.:

Resolved, 1. That this Assembly regard with approbation the wisdom and energy manifested by the Board in the discharge of their important duties.

2. That it be recommended to the Board to publish a series of works suited to children and youth.

3. That the funds committed by the Church to the Board of Publication ought to be managed upon the principle of yielding a net yearly revenue of about six per centum per annum upon the actual amount of its whole capital. And the Board is hereby recommended to adhere to a system of rigid economy in every department of its outlay, so as to effect the object now contemplated, and yet afford their publications at the lowest rate.

4. That all the churches in our connection which have not hitherto taken up a collection for this Board are hereby enjoined to do so in order to perfect its endowment; that the Board take the necessary steps to secure such collection; and that the Synods be, and they are hereby, directed to call the Presbyteries to account as to their diligence in promoting this collection.

5. That the report be referred to the Board and be published under their direction.

Mr. S. K. Talmage offered a resolution for overturing the question to the Presbyteries, whether the Constitution shall be so altered as to require the General Assembly to meet biennially instead of annually.

Which was laid on the table.

And then the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock. Concluded with prayer.

Thursday morning, June 2d, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

On motion of Dr. McFarland nominations were made of persons to fill vacancies in the Board of Publication; and the election was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave of absence to Messrs. Irwin, L. W. R. Phillips, Bradford, Graham, Gaston, McBride, Guy, Winans, Townley, Cochran, Gormley, and Van Court for the remainder of the sessions. The report was approved.

On motion, the Assembly sat in a judicial capacity, and the court resumed Case No. 1—viz. the appeal of Mr. McQueen. When Dr. Krebs was heard in continuation in behalf of the appellant, and concluded. And it was on motion entered that the original parties were fully heard.

Mr. McIver was heard in behalf of the majority of the Presbytery of Fayetteville; but before he finished the court rose.

And the Assembly adjourned until 3½ this afternoon.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday afternoon, 3½ o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

On motion, the Assembly sat in a judicial capacity, and the court resumed Case No. 1—viz. the appeal of Mr. McQueen. Mr. McIver was heard in continuation, and concluded. And the parties below and the Presbytery having all been heard in full, the roll was called, and the members of the court gave their opinions; but before finishing the court rose.

And then the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow morning at 8½ o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday morning, June 3d, 8½ o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave to Messrs. Howe, Condit, J. Talmage, Latta, Leete, Davidson, and Sherwood to be absent after this morning's session during the remainder of the sessions, also to Mr. Dumont after to day's session, and to Dr. Phillips until Monday afternoon; and to Messrs. Krebs and Dumont from Saturday noon until Monday afternoon, in case the Assembly should not be previously dissolved; which was approved.

The Committee on Finance made a report which was read, and, the same being considered, was adopted as follows, viz.:

The Standing Committee on Finance submit the following report, with the accompanying papers and exhibits, as the result of their labors during such intervals as they have been able, in the recesses of the Assembly, to devote to the important and difficult subject committed to them.

The Assembly referred specially to this committee the report of the Treasurer of the Trustees of the General Assembly; the report of the Trustees themselves; the seventeenth annual report of the Trustees of the Princeton Seminary; and the report of the committee on the deficit in the annual income of said Seminary. The observations we have to submit will be made in connection with these documents considered successively.

1. The Treasurer's report, herewith returned, marked A, is for the financial year extending from May 1, 1841, to May 1, 1842; the total receipts acknowledged during that period amount to \$15,922.80, and the total expenditures reported to \$12,638.45, leaving a balance in the Treasurer's hands on the 1st of May, 1842, of \$3284.35. But this balance is not available, being retained as subject to various items of expenditure which absorb all of it except \$316.41. The paper marked B, herewith submitted, was put into the hands of the committee to explain the manner in which this large nominal balance is appropriated. We have not had time to examine this part of the subject, and will not therefore be understood as approving it.

The receipts reported during the past year are less by \$1905.56 than those reported the year before.

The Treasurer, in obedience to the directions of the General Assembly of 1841 (*Minutes*, p. 185) has closed the old books and opened a new set; which appear to be very neatly kept.

We herewith submit to the Assembly the balance-sheet of the Trustees, marked C. The total amount of the stocks, bonds, loans, etc. now held by the Trustees is set down at \$189,143.74, being the actual cost; in other words, the Trustees have actually received at different times and on various accounts for the several permanent funds of the Assembly this large sum of money. It is to be observed, however, that this amount is subject to reduction by the amount of the cash balance reported as in hand May 1, 1842, explained above, and also by the sum of \$2017.57 debit on the profit and loss account. That is, this last sum is a total loss over and above the loss by depreciation of stocks, etc., being so much of the capital stock sunk in various ways not explained to the committee. This loss is of long standing, but is now precisely revealed by the process incident to the closing of the old books and the opening of the new upon a better system. It is a loss of about twelve per cent. on the whole amount of our funds, occurring before the commencement of the recent disastrous revolution in the moneyed affairs of the country.

This balance sheet of the Trustees represents the whole amount of the funds to be different from the whole amount reported by the Committee on the Funds to the last General Assembly (see *Minutes* of 1841, Appendix A). The amount of this difference between the statements then and now furnished is \$6378.50. The paper marked D, herewith submitted, is the Treasurer's explanation of this difference. The committee, not having time to examine the matter further, submit it without remark.

The paper marked E, herewith submitted, contains a variety of important information arranged in successive tables. No. 1 is a list of the general stocks, bonds, loans, etc., with their original par value and their actual cost, so arranged as to show the stocks by themselves and the loans by themselves, the cost of the former being \$128,850.27 and of the latter \$29,440.74. No. 2 is a list of such of those funds as will probably pay interest during the current financial year, with an estimate of the interest likely to be received;

which will probably amount this year to \$3421.20 only, and a second list of such as will probably pay nothing this year. No. 3 is a detailed list of the probable expenses during the current financial year, which amount to \$10,242.14, and a second detailed list of the ordinary sources of revenue with the probable amount—viz. \$3421.20, leaving a deficit to be supplied from extraordinary sources of \$6820.84. No. 4 is a table of securities for distinct objects, amounting to \$10,000. No. 5 is a table of the funds transferred to the Trustees of the Theological Seminary at Princeton in part execution of the direction of the last General Assembly; the aggregate of the fund is \$3300, satisfied by transferring stock that cost \$3318. No. 6 is a list of the bequests of the late Joseph Eastburn for the Mariners' Church of Philadelphia, amounting nominally to \$6550.

In relation to these tables nothing special need be said, except in regard to the matter to which No. 5 relates (the transfer of funds to the Trustees of the Theological Seminary at Princeton), about which we will speak in another part of this report; and in regard to No. 3, which relates to the expenses and income, about which we submit the following observations:

The estimated expenses divide themselves into four classes. No. 1, amounting to \$350, relates expressly to the Board of Trustees; No. 2, amounting to \$1000, to the subject of Missions; No. 3, amounting to \$3092.04 to the subject of beneficiary education; and No. 4, the whole balance of \$5800, to the salaries of the theological professors at Princeton. To meet this the Treasurer reports a probable income of \$3421.20. We recommend that No. 2 be referred to the Board of Domestic Missions, to be provided for; and that No. 3 be referred to the Board of Education, to be provided for as being objects specifically relating to their immediate duties and field of operation. We recommend that No. 1 be deducted from the ordinary income, and the whole balance of that income, which in this arrangement will amount to \$3071.20, be applied to No. 4—to wit, the professors' salaries; in which case there will remain a deficit on this item of only \$2728.80, to be provided for by the Assembly; in regard to which we will speak in another part of this report. By this arrangement this formidable and increasing deficit of \$6820.84 is so distributed and reduced as to be manageable without much difficulty till the Church can see the end of the present state of confusion and uncertainty.

It may not be amiss to say here that steps should be taken to increase the annual contributions to the contingent fund, to which not one half of our Presbyteries contribute anything and very few of them beyond a mere trifle.

2. We proceed to the report of the Board of Trustees, which is herewith submitted, marked F. Three points are touched on in it. The first of these needs no particular notice, being in relation to the closing of the old books and the opening of new ones by the Treasurer; to which we have already alluded.

The second point relates to the transfer of the funds properly belonging to the Theological Seminary at Princeton from the care of the Trustees of this Assembly to the care of the Trustees of that Seminary. The opinion of the able Committee of Finance of the last Assembly was clear and decided that this should be done; and the direction of the Assembly itself was precise and positive that the transfer should be made. (See *Minutes*, pp. 185, 186.) We decidedly concur in this opinion, and consider the action of the Trustees in this matter, now reported by them and explained in detail in paper E, No. 5, entirely short of the direction of the Assembly; which direction we therefore recommend to be reiterated. The slightest view of the balance-sheet of the Trustees shows that the great mass of the funds were for the use of the Seminary at Princeton, and belong in reality to it. And if the proprieties of the

case did not clearly show that its Trustees should control them, certainly the practical results do. Unless there be insuperable difficulties in the way of the transfer, it ought to be made as soon as it can be properly done.

The third point in the report of the Trustees relates to a change in the investment of the funds under their control, which the last Assembly, on the recommendation of its Committee of Finance, directed to be made from the "very questionable securities" then held to "bond and mortgage on real estate," "as soon as it could be done with advantage and safety." (*Minutes* of 1841, p. 185.) The Trustees in the exercise of the discretion allowed them have thought it best not to make the contemplated change. We herewith submit to the Assembly a detailed statement drawn up for this committee, and signed by gentlemen thoroughly competent and disinterested, which presents this whole subject in a clear light. It is marked G, and presents at a single view 1, the number of shares owned; 2, the description of stock; 3, the par value per share; 4, the par value in amount; 5, the total cost; 6, the premium paid; 7, the present market value per share; 8, the present value in amount; 9, the estimated loss; 10, probable increase in value; 11, estimated income. This table shows that the original par value of the securities now held by the Trustees was \$124,695, and the whole cost thereof \$136,339.62; that is, that a premium of \$11,331.88 was paid in the first instance to get hold of these securities. It further shows that the present market value of all these securities is only \$46,705, leaving a loss of \$89,634.62, which loss may be subject to a possible credit of \$9756, leaving a total and final loss estimated at \$79,878.62. That is, these securities which cost \$136,339.62, and which at six per cent. per annum would produce a yearly income of \$8180.37, are worth but \$46,705, and produce an estimated income of only \$2071.20 a year, and will never, in all probability, be worth more than \$56,461, which at six per cent. would produce \$3387.66 a year.

By comparing this table G with the second part of table B of the committee of last year (see Appendix to the *Minutes* of 1841), it turns out that the stocks (leaving out the bonds and mortgages) estimated then, and reported to the Assembly, as being worth \$93,022 in the market, are now estimated to be worth \$44,032 in the market, showing an aggregate loss on these stocks within the last ecclesiastical year of \$48,990.

It is therefore apparent that it would have been extremely fortunate if the recommendation of the last Assembly had been promptly carried out in the wise and provident spirit which prompted it. Yet the proper time of selling the most of our securities having passed by, nothing better, as the committee believe, can now be done than to leave the whole matter as to the time and manner of the proposed change of investment to the sound discretion of the Trustees.

This expose, it must be confessed, is most deplorable. The instruction it communicates is so emphatic that the committee forbear to make any comment.

We have not had time to look into the state of the funds held upon bond and mortgage, nor that of those upon bond *only*. But we have received the impression that all the former are secure, and most of them available, and that all the latter (of which the amount is not very large, about which the tables filed give all the detailed information we possess) are unavailable and insecure.

The chairman of this committee is directed to name to the Assembly an individual as a suitable person to be elected a Trustee in the place of the one reported to have been removed by death.

3. We proceed next to the report of the Trustees of the Theological Seminary at Princeton. It was remarked by the Financial Committee of the

Assembly last year—and we regret to make the same remark again—that the money part at least of this report is not from the Treasurer, instead of the Secretary of the Board, and that it is not full, detailed, and particular in regard to all the finances of that Board. We ask the Assembly to request this change in the mode of reporting on the part of this Board of Trustees, which is the more important under the contemplated transfer of funds to it.

As far as we understand the condition of the funds of the Seminary managed by its own Board of Trustees, they seem to have escaped the wreck of our other funds, and to be regularly increasing from the liberality of our people.

We have already stated that the actual deficit in the salaries of the professors in the Seminary, reported by the Treasurer of the Trustees of the Assembly will be this year \$2728.80 after applying to those salaries the estimated income as recommended in the former part of this report. We now recommend that the Trustees of the Seminary at Princeton take upon themselves the raising of this deficit in whatever manner they judge most advisable, and that from year to year, while any deficit of this kind exists, they go on till the further order of the Assembly to raise it by annual contributions from the churches. There is no doubt that the same liberality which has been manifested toward this object for the two past years will continue to supply whatever sum is necessary for it; and it occurs to the committee that this is the simplest and most efficacious disposition of this important matter in the present state of our affairs.

This report contains the gratifying information that the alumni of the institution are proceeding with vigor and wisdom in the enlargement of their library, at present attached to it.

With these observations the report is herewith submitted, marked H.

4. The remaining paper referred to this committee is the report of a committee appointed by the Assembly the year before last, and continued last year, to raise the deficient means for paying the current expenses of the Seminary at Princeton. The committee has been enabled to achieve the object for which it was temporarily appointed, and the funds required were contributed to the amount of \$6382.48 during the past year, chiefly within the bounds of the Synods of Albany, New York, New Jersey, and Philadelphia. To the churches under the care of these Synods the Seminary at Princeton must chiefly look in future for the means of its support and enlargement; and all past experience proves that these churches will willingly and promptly respond to every proper call made upon them in its behalf.

Having recommended another, and, as we think, a better disposition of this subject, we do not suppose it is necessary to prolong the temporary expedient resorted to last year and the year before by the continuance of the committee whose reports we are now considering. Nor does it appear more proper to print in or with our minutes the list of donations contained in their report than any other list contributed for other important objects under the care of the church. That report is therefore returned, and recommended to be filed with the papers of the Assembly.

The tables and documents submitted herewith, and lettered from A to H inclusive, are recommended to be printed in the Appendix to the *Minutes*.

In concluding this report the committee, while they see much to lament in the misfortunes incident to the past management of the funds held by the Trustees of the Assembly, feel called on to say that they have every reason to be convinced of the integrity and good intentions of all who have at any time participated in the control of this large trust. They deem it also proper to say that while the great losses we have sustained are certainly much to be regretted, yet we have no idea these losses will seriously embarrass, much

less permanently arrest, any of the great operations of the Church. While our people are truly inspired with love to God and faith in his only-begotten Son, while our ministers are actuated by a deep and fervent zeal for the good of perishing men and the glory of our risen Lord, he whose we are and whom we serve will supply liberally and unceasingly all the means needful for our good and for his praise. Let us, then, confessing the hand of God in all things, go boldly forward, trusting in his divine promises.

All which is most respectfully submitted.

(Signed)

R. J. BRECKINRIDGE, C. BEERS,
WINTHROP SARGENT, D. R. PRESTON,
JAS. R. REYNOLDS, ANT. CHS. CAZENOVE.
MICAH BALDWIN.

On motion, the motion to reconsider the vote on Overtures Nos. 12 and 13 was taken up and unanimously adopted, and the overtures were put on the docket.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day, and the following persons were elected to fill vacancies in the Board of Publication.

For Four Years.

MINISTERS.

William W. Phillips, D. D.,
Jacob J. Janeway, D. D.,
John Witherspoon, D. D.,
Samuel B. Wilson, D. D.,
Benjamin F. Spilman,
William K. Stewart,
Joshua L. Wilson, D. D.,
Alexander Maeklin,
Thomas S. Witherspoon,
William T. Hamilton,
Andrew Todd,
George Potts, D. D.,
Willis Lord.

RULING ELDERS.

Winthrop Sargent,
James M. Ray,
John C. Stockton,
A. Symington,
Paul C. Venable,
William Wilson,
James Weir,
J. R. Witherspoon,
W. R. Hanson,
Alexander Henry,
P. A. Walker,
Francis A. Ewing,
Thomas Craig.

For Three Years.

John Hall.

Peter Boyd.

For One Year.

John McDowell, D. D.

George Vail.

Dr. Howe offered a resolution to remit Judicial Case No. 6—viz. Beek vs. McMahon—to the church Session by which it was first tried for a new trial, on the ground of informality in the papers. Which was ruled to be out of order.

On motion, the Assembly sat in a judicial capacity, and the court resumed Case No. 1, the appeal of Mr. McQueen. The roll was called, and the members gave their opinions in continuation, but before finishing the court rose.

On motion of Dr. Breckinridge, the Assembly resolved to elect a Trustee in place of Mr. William Brown, deceased.

And the standing rule in respect to the manner of electing Trustees was unanimously suspended. When, on motion,

Mr. Stephen Colwell was elected a Trustee of the General Assembly. And then the Assembly adjourned until this afternoon at 3 o'clock. Concluded with prayer.

Friday afternoon, 3 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

On motion, the Assembly proceeded to the order of the day for yesterday, which had been postponed, when the standing rule regulating the manner of electing professors in Theological Seminaries was unanimously suspended, and the Rev. Alexander T. McGill was elected professor of Ecclesiastical History and Church Government in the Western Theological Seminary.

The Assembly proceeded to the second order postponed from yesterday, when the Rev. Willis Lord was elected delegate to the General Associations of Connecticut and Massachusetts, and Rev. Henry A. Boardman was appointed alternate.

On motion, the further consideration of the subject of delegates to corresponding bodies was referred to the Committee of Foreign Correspondence, to report to-morrow morning.

Mr. Smock offered a resolution to send down an overture to the Presbyteries for such an alteration of the Constitution as that the Commissioners to the General Assembly shall be the representatives of the Presbyteries in their Synodical capacity, and so as that the ratio of representation shall be two ministers and two ruling elders for each Synod whose number does not exceed *fifty* ministers, and one minister and one ruling elder for each *twenty-five* ministers above that number; which was laid on the table.

Dr. Krebs offered the following minute, which was unanimously adopted, viz.:

Whereas, the Church of Scotland is at the present moment engaged in a perilous struggle, in which her dearest rights are involved, and in which the attempt is made to dictate to the flock of Christ who shall be their spiritual leaders and pastors, thus virtually usurping the place of the Lord Jesus Christ, who is the only Head of his Church, and menacing the people of God, with the deprivation of their most sacred privileges; and whereas, the prelacy, papacy, and infidelity of Scotland, rejoicing in the prospect of overturning that noble Church of Christ (which in the darkest and most appalling periods of persecution boldly maintained its testimony for Christ), are arrayed with the civil power to despoil the Church of her proper spiritual rights and powers, in hope of counteracting her influence in opposing error in all its forms; therefore,

Resolved, 1. That this General Assembly does most affectionately extend to the Church of Scotland its most tender sympathy in her present season of tribulation, and most devoutly prays that she may be safely guided through her painful conflict to a successful, happy, and peaceful issue.

2. That this General Assembly recognizes the great principles for which the Church of Scotland is contending, and believes them to be just, vital, and scriptural, and that for their defence every temporal sacrifice, even to the sacrifice of life itself, should be cheerfully made.

3. That in the opinion of this General Assembly no compromise involving the sacrifice or the abatement of these principles should for a moment be listened to, and that the contest should never be relaxed until the seal of reprobation is indelibly affixed to the odious principle of patronage.

4. That a copy of these resolutions, and a copy of the resolution respecting the anniversary commemoration of the Westminster Assembly, signed by

the Moderator and Clerks of this body, be transmitted to the General Assembly of the Kirk of Scotland, and to the Synod of the Presbyterian Church in Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland.

On motion, the Assembly sat in a judicial capacity, and the court resumed Case No. 1, the appeal of Mr. McQueen. The roll was called in continuation, that the members might give their opinions; which having been concluded, the final vote was taken, viz.:

Shall the Appeal be sustained?—and the votes thereon were recorded as follows, viz.:

TO SUSTAIN.—Messrs. Reed, Huntington, Benedict, Hale, F. A. Ewing, Studdiford, Wynkoop, Aiken, Stanton, McRee. McCombs—11.

NOT TO SUSTAIN.—Messrs. Sherwood, Davidson, Carle, Beers, Baldwin, Ramsay, Dumont, Clark, Foster, Platt, Sargent, Macklin, Dulty, Janvier, Breckinridge, Cazenove, Moody, Nelson, Betts, W. R. Smith, Greer, Hasinger, W. T. Smith, Hill, Swift, Morrow, Lea, J. G. Wilson, James Montgomery, College, Hutchinson, Shearer, Denton, Stone, Fullerton, Galloway, McDonald, J. McIntyre, Lattimore, Smock, Prince, John Montgomery, D. Montgomery, Bell, Newell, Harbison, Templeton, R. Stuart, Preston, McFarland, B. M. Smith, L. F. Wilson, Pryor, M. Wilson, Anderson, J. Brown, Cummings, Frontis, Reynolds, Harris, Fosbrook, Caldwell, English, M. MacLean, J. B. Thompson, Finley, E. T. McLean, Weatherby—68.

TO SUSTAIN IN PART.—Messrs. Fox, Andrews, Walker, Kerr, S. M. Wilson, Tod, S. K. Talmage, Hadden—8.

EXCUSED FROM VOTING.—Mr. Lacy.

NON LIQUET.—Messrs. Lord, Jenks, Cozad, Riggs, D. T. Stuart—5.

It was also, on motion, recorded that Dr. Krebs, as having been the counsel of Mr. McQueen, was by the Constitution precluded from voting.

Whereupon, it was on motion,

Resolved, That the judgment of the Presbytery of Fayetteville in the case of the Rev. Archibald McQueen be affirmed, and that the appeal be dismissed.

On motion, the order of the day was taken up—viz. Case No. 6—the appeal of Beck against McMahon, and it was referred to the next General Assembly.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That Judicial Cases No. 2, the complaint of Porter against the Synod of Alabama; Nos. 4 and 8, the complaints of Boardman, etc. against the Synod of Philadelphia; No. 9, the complaint of the Presbytery of Cincinnati against the Synod of Cincinnati; No. 7, the complaint of Monfort against the Synod of Indiana—be taken up and referred to the next General Assembly.

And the court rose.

Mr. B. M. Smith moved a reconsideration of the resolution adopted on Monday last to recommit the new Book of Hymns and the Book of Psalms to the Committee of Psalmody. The motion being put, the vote thereupon was yeas 58, nays 21; which not being two-thirds of those who were present and voted on the resolution to be reconsidered, it was declared that the motion was lost.

Whereupon Dr. Breckinridge offered a minute, which was considered, amended, and adopted by sections as follows, viz.:

1. *Resolved*, That in view of the minute of the Assembly last year and this year in regard to the new Psalm and Hymn-book, the Assembly order that the committee on said book be, and they are hereby, authorized to go on, and at their discretion print the book containing the Psalms now in use, together with the new selection of Hymns which has been laid before this

Assembly, And the book so printed shall be laid before the next Assembly, and is authorized to be used in the churches. Yeas 59, nays 11.

2. *Resolved*, That our ministers and members individually and the Presbyteries are invited to communicate to this committee such suggestions as may appear best to them before the first day of December next, addressing their communications postpaid, to the chairman, the Rev. Dr. Wm. W. Phillips, New York; and the committee shall not put the book to press before the first day of December next.

And then the whole minute was adopted. Yeas 60, nays 11.

On motion, *Resolved*, that the Board of Publication be requested to distribute the remainder of the edition of the new selection of Hymns to the Presbyteries.

The committees on the records of the Synods of Cincinnati, Wheeling, and South Carolina and Georgia reported; and the records were approved, with the exception of what relates to the judicial cases therein which are not yet decided.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Illinois reported; and the records were approved, with the exception of what therein relates to the judicial case concerning the First Church of Peoria, settled by this Assembly.

On motion, the report of the Committee on the Narrative was taken up, and adopted. And it was ordered that the Narrative be printed in the Appendix to the *Minutes*.

And then the Assembly adjourned.

Saturday morning, June 4, 8½ o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence made a report which was adopted as follows, viz.:

Resolved, That the following persons be appointed delegates to Corresponding Bodies, viz.:

To the General Conference of Maine—Rev. Joseph Harvey, D. D., principal, and Rev. Albert T. Chester alternate.

To the General Convention of Vermont—Rev. Wm. D. Snodgrass, D. D., principal, and Rev. John H. Symmes alternate.

To the General Association of New Hampshire—Rev. Ezra A. Huntington principal, and Rev. Villeroy D. Reed alternate.

To the German Reformed Church—Rev. Robert J. Breckinridge, D. D., principal, and Rev. Daniel McKinley alternate.

The Permanent Clerk presented the bills for the contingent expenses of the Assembly, amounting to \$171.51.

Ordered, that the Board of Trustees pay out of the contingent fund to the Permanent Clerk the aforesaid sum.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Philadelphia reported; and the records were approved with the exception of the judicial case therein, which is not yet decided.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Indiana reported; and the records were approved.

Dr. McFarland moved to reconsider the vote of yesterday, adopting the report of the Committee of Finance. And pending the motion,

At the request of the Board of Trustees of the General Assembly, a committee of the Board—viz. Rev. Dr. John McDowell, Rev. Henry A. Boardman, and Mr. Solomon Allen—were heard. And after debate the motion to reconsider was, by general consent, agreed to.

Whereupon the following minute was offered by Dr. Krebs, and unanimously adopted, viz.:

Resolved, That the report of the Committee of Finance be so amended as that the gross amount of the revenue accruing from the consolidated investments of the funds contributed for the various purposes controlled by the General Assembly, after deducting the expense of managing the funds, be distributed *pro rata* according to the original specific destination thereof, to the missionary funds, the scholarships, and the professorships of the Princeton Theological Seminary. Also, that it be referred to the Boards of Missions and Education and to the Trustees of the Princeton Seminary, respectively, to raise the deficits existing in the missionary, scholarships, and professorships' funds.

And then the report of the Committee of Finance, as thus amended, was unanimously adopted.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the report of the committee appointed by the last Assembly to raise contributions to supply the deficit in the income of the permanent funds be printed in the Appendix to the *Minutes*.

On motion of Mr. Weatherby,

Resolved, That while the Assembly has learned with much satisfaction that the operations of the American Bible Society are on the increase, both as to the collection of funds and the distribution of books, yet such is the rapid growth of our population from natural increase and foreign immigration, and such the insidious advances of popery and traditional religion, that measures far more extensive than those now employed ought to be adopted for keeping all our families and schools well supplied with the Sacred Scriptures, the great Protestant rule of faith and practice.

On motion, the remaining items of unfinished business were referred to the next General Assembly, viz.:

1. Letter respecting the legacy of Jane Porter.
2. Report of the Committee on Bills and Overtures on the overture from the Presbytery of Chilliothe on the subject of slavery.
3. Report of the committee on the overture from the Presbytery of Lodiana on the subject of baptism.
4. Report of the committee appointed by the Assembly of 1841 on the subject of a Directory for Adult Baptism, etc.
5. Mr. S. K. Talmage's resolution to overture the Presbyteries for such an alteration of the Constitution as to require the General Assembly to meet biennially instead of annually.
6. Mr. Smock's resolution to overture the Presbyteries for such an alteration of the Constitution as that the representation in the General Assembly shall be from the Synods, and not from the Presbyteries, in the proportion of two ministers and two elders from each Synod of not more than fifty ministers, and one minister and one elder additional for every additional twenty-five ministers.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Assembly be returned to the inhabitants of Philadelphia for their hospitality during the present sessions; and also to the Trustees of the Seventh Presbyterian Church for the gratuitous use of their building for the sessions of the Assembly.

The minutes of the present session were read and approved.

The roll was then called, and it appeared that no one was absent without leave.

The Assembly having finished their business, it was

Resolved, That this General Assembly be dissolved, and that another General Assembly, chosen in like manner, be required to meet in such place, in the city of Philadelphia, as shall be designated by the Stated and

Permanent Clerks, on the third Thursday of May, A. D. 1843, at 11 o'clock, A. M.

Accordingly, the Moderator dissolved the Assembly, and the sessions were concluded with prayer, singing, and the apostolic benediction.

JOHN M. KREBS, *Permanent Clerk*.

Philadelphia, June 4, 1842.

APPENDIX.

NARRATIVE OF THE STATE OF RELIGION,

PRESENTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
TO THE CHURCHES UNDER THEIR CARE.

CHRISTIAN BRETHREN: The growth and prosperity of the Redeemer's kingdom are dear to the hearts of all his sincere followers. For the increase and the peace of this much-loved Jerusalem throughout the world, in our own beloved country, and in the pale of our own communion your prayers ascend to heaven, and the alternate tears of grief and gratitude, accordingly as she declines or prospers, which you shed "in secret places," attest, we trust, that no cause lies nearer your hearts than that for which the Saviour died. We pause, therefore, in our attention to the other affairs of the Church to communicate to you a brief review of the dealings of God with our religious community during the ecclesiastical year which has now closed. We have received the written narratives of about seventy of our Presbyteries. These reports, if we defer for the concluding part of this summary such general topics as are common to them all, and consider them first in the general tone of their statements as to the interests of religion, may be divided into three classes.

The first address us in the language of grief and lamentation, and speak of the cause of religion as depressed and discouraging. Harmony and peace and an outward attention to the ordinances of God's house and the duties of religion exist, indeed, and a feeble, languid co-operation in behalf of the benevolent objects of the Church is given, but lukewarmness, worldly-mindedness, and inactivity prevail. Christians do not sufficiently distinguish themselves from the people of the world; the vital warmth of piety is neglected; the Sabbath is not suitably hallowed; and family religion is suffered to decline. These delinquencies are the more to be deplored in those parts of our Church where the ministers of the gospel are few, the congregations feeble, and where, of course, the preservation of order and discipline and the healthful state of religious feeling must greatly depend upon the life and activity of ruling elders and private Christians. It would appear from the Presbyterian narratives also that the suspension of the influences of God's Holy Spirit, the depression of business and productive employments, and the general decline of public prosperity, with other forms of providential trial and rebuke, do not produce any adequate humiliation, repentance, and awakening among the children of God; but that the cares of the world, the conformity of many to fashionable amusements and entertainments, and the great neglect of the means of promoting vital godliness still continue to prevail. Few are consequently found to mourn over these marks of spiritual declension, and sigh and weep for the afflictions of Zion, and fervently to pray for those refreshing seasons when Christians took sweet counsel together and many were added to the Lord. As the Assembly cast their eyes over those portions of the Saviour's heritage where the ways of Zion thus mourn, they would affectionately address their slumbering fellow-Christians in the words of the ascended Master himself: *Remember therefore from whence thou*

art fallen, and repent and do thy first works, or else I will come unto thee quickly and remove thy candlestick out of his place except thou repent.

The second class of Presbyterian reports present a more encouraging picture of their spiritual welfare. These speak of considerable—and in a few cases of quite unusual—additions to the churches, as appears to have been the case with many congregations in the Presbytery of Redstone. Others mention instances of hopeful conversion of a striking and interesting character, an increased attendance upon public ordinances, and a growing attachment to social meetings and devotional exercises. In the absence of any general revival God's people have experienced solemn and joyful seasons of refreshing, and a gradual accession of members has followed. Walking in harmony and peace, ministers and churches have preserved the unity of the Spirit in the bonds of peace, and an encouraging attention to the word spoken has marked the dispensation of the gospel of peace; congregations have been strengthened and increased in numbers, houses of public worship erected, ministers have been diligent and faithful in their work, and prayer-meetings, Bible-classes, and Sabbath-schools well sustained.

From the narratives of the respective Presbyteries within whose bounds these institutions are located we learn that the Theological Seminary and the College of New Jersey at Princeton, South Hanover College, and the Indiana Theological Seminary, and the Theological Seminary of the Synod of South Carolina and Georgia, are in a condition of growing prosperity and usefulness. The Assembly are also pleased to learn that in a large number of the Southern Presbyteries an increased attention is paid to the religious instruction of the colored population, and connected with these Presbyteries are a number of ministers who devote their time exclusively to this class of people, and with flattering indications of success in their labors.

In passing on to our *third* and remaining class of Presbyterian communications, we proceed from the gentle and almost imperceptible traces of divine influences to record those clearly defined seasons of refreshing from the presence of the Lord, those precious revivals of religion of greater or less extent and power, which many of the churches have enjoyed, and in which many hearts have been opened to give earnest heed to the words of life, and many hopeful converts been brought into the communion of the Church. In these places our dear brethren have been called to render praise and thanksgiving to a faithful prayer-hearing God that under the plain and simple exhibition of his truth, in its common and ordinary forms, heavenly influences have come down as rain upon the mown grass, and the word spoken become the wisdom of God and the power of God unto salvation. Of the congregations in which God has thus appeared in his glory to build up Zion, the Assembly may specify the congregations of Derry, Londonderry, and Peterboro, in the Presbytery of Londonderry; East Hampton, Bridge Hampton, Sag Harbor, Huntington, and Hempstead, in the Presbytery of Long Island; Trenton First Church, and Trenton City, Pennington, Shrewsbury, Second Church Upper Freehold, Kingston, Princeton, and Lawrence, in the Presbytery of New Brunswick; Tunkhannock, Wysox, and Orwell, in the Presbytery of Susquehanna; Huntington, United First Church, Amwell, and Lambertville, in the Presbytery of Raritan; The Mariners' Church in Philadelphia; the cities of Richmond, Petersburg, and Norfolk, in the Presbytery of East Hanover; Pisgah, Bethel, McChord Church (Lexington), and Georgetown, in the Presbytery of West Lexington; Greenville and Hillsboro, in the Presbytery of Kaskaskia; The First Church in St. Louis, the church of Nashville, in West Tennessee; Lebanon, Pleasant Trust, and Knoxville, in the Presbytery of Holston; Lexington, in the Presbytery of Hopewell; and the College Church, Oxford, and Holly Springs, in the Presbytery of Holly Springs.

In addition to these, the Presbytery of West Hanover mentions several churches within their bounds, the Presbytery of Bedford four, those of Miami and Steubenville one each, and that of Tuscaloosa several, as having during the past year enjoyed similar effusions of the Holy Spirit. The result of these times of refreshing has not only been the conversion of sinners and the accession of many, especially among the young, to the communion of the Church, but the growth of piety and the increased activity and fruitfulness of professing Christians in charity, liberality, and good works, and a prolonged vitality and permanent improvement in the condition of the churches.

While the Assembly rejoice in these cheering and refreshing tidings of the work of the Lord they would earnestly exhort our whole body to pray without ceasing and labor without weariness and discouragement for such and *still greater* outpourings of the Holy Spirit. In the midst of revivals the riches of grace and the glories of redemption shine out resplendent and convincing; God is greatly honored, gospel truth stamps its impress upon society with peculiar distinctness, and a salutary impulse is given to personal religion in the soul and to all the objects of active usefulness without. We do not see how our churches are to meet the expectations of this interesting age and this growing country, or fulfil their part in the great work of missions both at home and abroad, unless they become more and more the theatres of these precious displays of the grace and power of God. Let all our people, then, unite as the heart of one man to throw off that religious apathy, to struggle against that worldliness and secularity which are so unbefitting our holy vocation, and to become strong in the Lord and in the power of his might, warm-hearted, self-denying, zealous and active in all just and scriptural endeavors to secure the presence and the blessing of the Holy Ghost.

From the General Associations of Connecticut and Massachusetts their delegates to this body have communicated cheering intelligence of the harmony and growing prosperity of their churches, and of the enjoyment of many revivals of religion, "marked by an entire absence of noise and extravagance, but by overwhelming evidence of the special influence of the divine Spirit upon the understanding and heart." The churches in the Association of Windham county, in the first-mentioned State, have in this respect been blessed more abundantly than for many previous years.

The Assembly find, on turning to the subject of *the contributions of the churches* to carry forward the works of piety and benevolence, that while in a few cases, notwithstanding the great pressure of monetary affairs so generally felt in this country, there has been a continued and even increased liberality, most of the Presbyteries complain of a very serious decline. This is a matter which professing Christians should conscientiously examine. Great and sudden fluctuations must necessarily embarrass the Boards of the Church, and God no doubt often checks the course of public prosperity that he may try the faith and fidelity of his people. Surely the cause of Christ should not be the first to suffer from the depressions of adverse times in a land so highly favored as our own. Let Christians, then, amidst all such embarrassments, consider what they owe to God and to the destitute and the honor of religion, and act accordingly.

The reports of almost every Presbytery from one extremity of our land to the other speak of the past year as one which has given to the *temperance reform* an impulse and a triumph without a parallel in the history of modern times. We rejoice in what our eyes have seen and our ears have heard of the wonderful progress of this change, which is not only, we would hope, the precursor of a still more glorious revolution in the spiritual condition of society, but which promises, with God's blessing, to redeem this great empire,

and indeed the whole civilized world, from a vice which for many departed years has borne its tens of thousands to untimely graves. We are glad that it has enjoyed the co-operation of the ministers and congregations of our body in an eminent degree, and we would counsel them to perseverance in the good work until such efforts shall no longer be necessary; maintaining, however, in all such movements the principle that the question of the use of fermented wine in the holy sacrament is not one that comes within the province of temperance measures or discussions.

The Assembly advert with pleasure to the uniformity with which the Presbyteries speak of *an increased and growing attention to Sabbath-school, biblical, and catechetical instruction*. The doctrines and the spirit of that form of Christianity which is drawn from the Bible and embodied in our Catechisms are the power of God to salvation, the life of the Church of Christ, and the glory of nations. In these precious and holy doctrines in their living power our youth and children must be trained up if we would hope for a generation of men suited to these eventful times, and if in the progress of events we would raise up in our midst for other climes *heralds of salvation*, valiant for God, to penetrate as it were Caucasian mountains and Lybian deserts and Ethiopic deltas and barbaric islands, uplifting the standard of the cross amidst Arctic rocks and snows or tropical arid sands, and accounting it the noblest expenditure of life and health, of body and soul, to preach the gospel of Christ where "there is no vision and the people perish." Nor should we forget that here in the training of the young of our congregations in the ways of righteousness and in the sound knowledge of the truth of God, is our best hope of success against that spirit of declension and fatal error which is abroad alike in our crowded cities and the thinly-settled forests of our Western States and Territories. What, dear brethren, is to lead this nation in safety through the moral battle of conflicting principles and interests, through the volcanic heavings and agitations which are inherent in the nature of its elements, but this? What shall effectually withstand the papacy in its last effort to lay its iron sceptre upon this land and other parts of Protestant Christendom, and once more make all nations tremble at its voice, but the most wakeful attention to this duty among all who fear God? Let all the Presbyteries be particular in this matter. Let them everywhere inquire whether the youth and children are trained to be familiar with the Bible and the Catechisms. Let parents and heads of families co-operate with them, and be faithful to train up their children in the knowledge of God's word. Finally, while the Assembly would invite their fellow-disciples to unite with them in thanksgiving to God for all that has been encouraging in the past, they would point them to the duties and obligations and brightening hopes which lie before. "The night is far spent, the day is at hand." "Brethren, the time is short."

This apostolic admonition sounds with solemn import in our ears as memory here recalls dear and honored fellow-servants—some of them while yet in the prime and strength and vigor of their manhood—whom death has in the last year consigned to the silent grave. The voice of persuasive eloquence has ceased, the greeting hand of friendship is outstretched no more, and the counsels and prayers and labors of life are for ever ended. Let us all consider, dear brethren, how soon our own lips may also be sealed in death, and what our hand findeth to do let us do it with our might while it is yet day. Our Church covers an extended field already white unto the harvest. Our missionary enterprises are fast expanding before us in remote and far-distant climes; and in our own beloved country, for the maintenance of sound principles and wholesome religious institutions, for the better sanctification of the holy Sabbath and the diffusion of education and a good evan-

gelical influence, much remains to be done. Great are the responsibilities of our Church, and how does she need to be aroused to a just sense of her present duty to Him who is now calling many Gentile lands to awake from the dead and hail the glad morning of salvation as it shall spread upon the mountains! Oh, brethren, let us unite to seek a general and prolonged effusion of the Holy Spirit. Let such an humble, determined, noble aim take full possession of our souls, and in all our churches let gracious hearts abound in prayer; let generous hands be open to yield their offerings to God; and let solemn assemblies and well-attended prayer-meetings, faithful Christian examples, and the kindling influences of combined and united activity be everywhere exhibited, and then, trusting in the God of Israel, we shall see the work of the Lord go forward, and each revolving year, more rich in gospel blessings than that which preceded it, shall attest that unto those who wait for him the Lord shall appear in his glory to make "Zion a joy and a praise in the earth."

J. T. EDGAR, *Moderator.*

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.

THE General Assembly has under its care *nineteen* Synods, comprising *one hundred and one* Presbyteries, viz.:

1. The Synod of Albany, containing the *five* Presbyteries of Londonderry, Ogdensburg, Troy, Albany, and Columbia.
2. The Synod of New York, containing the *six* Presbyteries of Hudson, North River, Bedford, Long Island, New York, and New York 2d.
3. The Synod of New Jersey, containing the *six* Presbyteries of Elizabethtown, New Brunswick, Newton, Susquehanna, Caledonia, and Raritan.
4. The Synod of Philadelphia, containing the *eight* Presbyteries of Philadelphia, Philadelphia 2d, West Jersey, New Castle, Baltimore, Carlisle, Huntingdon, and Northumberland.
5. The Synod of Pittsburgh, containing the *seven* Presbyteries of Blairsville, Redstone, Ohio, Allegheny, Beaver, Erie, and Clarion.
6. The Synod of Wheeling, containing the *four* Presbyteries of Washington, Steubenville, St. Clairsville, and New Lisbon.
7. The Synod of Ohio, containing the *five* Presbyteries of Columbus, Marion, Lancaster, Richland, and Wooster.
8. The Synod of Cincinnati, containing the *six* Presbyteries of Chillicothe, Miami, Cincinnati, Oxford, Sidney, and Maumee.
9. The Synod of Indiana, containing the *seven* Presbyteries of Salem, Vincennes, Madison, Crawfordsville, Indianapolis, Logansport, and Michigan.
10. The Synod of Illinois, containing the *six* Presbyteries of Kaskaskia, Sangamon, Schuyler, Iowa, Palestine, and Peoria.
11. The Synod of Missouri, containing the *three* Presbyteries of Missouri, St. Louis, and Palmyra.
12. The Synod of Kentucky, containing the *five* Presbyteries of Louisville, Muhlenburg, Transylvania, West Lexington, and Ebenezer.
13. The Synod of Virginia, containing the *five* Presbyteries of Greenbrier, Lexington, Winchester, West Hanover, and East Hanover.
14. The Synod of North Carolina, containing the *three* Presbyteries of Orange, Fayetteville, and Concord.
15. The Synod of West Tennessee, containing the *five* Presbyteries of Holston, West Tennessee, Nashville, North Alabama, and Western District.

16. The Synod of South Carolina and Georgia, containing the *eight* Presbyteries of South Carolina, Bethel, Harmony, Charleston, Georgia, Hopewell, Flint River, and Florida.

17. The Synod of Alabama, containing the *four* Presbyteries of South Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Tombeckbee, and East Alabama.

18. The Synod of Mississippi, containing the *five* Presbyteries of Mississippi, Clinton, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Holly Springs.

19. The Synod of Northern India, containing the *three* Presbyteries of Lodiana, Furrukabad, and Allahabad.

SUMMARY VIEW OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES, FOR 1842.

PRESBYTERIES.	Ministers.		Candidates.	Churches.	Com. added on Examination.	Certificate.	Total of Communicants.	Adults Bap- tized.		Funds raised for Dom. Mis- sions.	Funds raised for Education.	Funds raised for Board of Publication.	Funds raised for Theological Seminaries.	Com-mis-sion- ers Fund.	Contingent Fund.	Miscellaneous Collections.	STATED CLERKS OF PRESBYTERIES.
	Licentiates.	...	...	...	...	...	...	Infants Bap- tized.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Londonderry.....	20	...	...	10	58	10	1658	27	56	.....	\$114	\$16	.....	\$17	.....	.....	Edward L. Parker.
Ogdensburg.....	6	...	2	6	57	15	810	18	34	\$34	861	51	.....	22	\$5 00	.....	John A. Savage.
Troy.....	9	4	...	16	50	...	1478	6	39	281	2029	\$100	253	22	16 00	.....	W.D. Snodgrass, D.D.
Albany.....	32	8	10	26	128	127	3317	35	192	929	873	187	307	80	58 50	\$2790	John Clancy.
Columbia.....	5	...	...	3	7	13	215	2	13	14	40	10	...	...	...	176	Alfred Gardner.
Hudson.....	20	1	...	16	54	23	1220	6	79	116	347	64	89	25	21 47	608	John H. Leggett.
North River.....	12	2	3	9	21	20	853	10	35	109	188	.....	.....	25	20 00	606	John Johnston.
Bedford.....	14	1	2	16	78	22	1205	47	47	300	545	82	134	46	23 87	.....	Jacob Green.
Long Island.....	14	1	3	16	200	35	1809	92	102	38	461	107	70	34	9 56	318	James M'Dougall.
New York.....	28	12	3	13	177	200	4176	35	243	6370	8975	3366	1804	139	134 56	14022	John M. Krebs, D.D.
New York 2d.....	10	2	3	5	54	46	985	7	67	730	2685	600	4267	41	11 00	.....	Joseph M'Elroy, D.D.
Elizabethtown.....	27	9	...	22	96	105	3394	24	134	504	428	239	100	52	40 91	2405	...
New Brunswick.....	35	10	7	19	445	113	3803	193	276	755	1182	324	227	69	52 37	890	Eli F. Cooley.
Newton.....	25	6	1	28	163	99	2970	36	234	643	739	244	30	21	8 15	546	John Gray.
Susquehanna.....	12	1	4	20	56	79	1204	4	35	166	161	43	106	37	1 50	.....	John Dorrance.
Caledonia.....	15	...	2	13	28	16	666	4	42	22	148	.....	75	59	6 50	45	Isaac W. Platt.
Raritan.....	9	1	...	13	140	16	1274	68	71	49	90	11	36	17	12 50	339	Peter O. Stoddard.
Philadelphia.....	26	8	14	18	376	332	3775	37	272	1776	3004	1993	1270	84	62 00	2617	Wm. M. Engles, D. D.
Philadelphia 2d.....	10	4	1	13	55	37	928	19	65	41	296	64	15	13	12 00	102	William D. Howard.
West Jersey.....	13	1	4	14	48	84	792	27	26	299	201	85	100	11	7 00	557	S. Beach Jones.
Newcastle.....	34	6	3	41	125	67	3574	38	261	368	878	125	68	27	10 00	481	Robert P. Du Bois.
Baltimore.....	15	8	3	22	73	24	1466	6	65	805	1289	644	550	20	16 50	4234	Robert T. Berry.
Carlisle.....	27	1	7	43	150	45	2450	21	161	562	981	163	144	38	15 50	80	James C. Watson.
Huntingdon.....	21	3	1	34	238	159	3927	47	375	439	847	168	120	87	12 00	184	Joshua Moore.
Northumberland.....	18	1	4	25	156	54	2583	26	164	332	1050	87	14	67	15 00	421	Isaac Grier.
Blairsville.....	20	...	3	34	271	125	3858	33	376	440	350	108	86	87	10 00	...	Watson Hughes.
Red-stone.....	16	1	3	31	256	76	2675	90	213	494	315	158	97	61	8 00	...	Ashebel G. Fairchild.
Ohio.....	36	2	12	33	212	166	3772	45	353	1382	1323	133	867	132	26 00	1416	A. G. McMaster.
Allegheny.....	12	1	3	21	127	51	1945	30	221	153	194	35	24	52	5 75	71	John R. Agnew.
Beaver.....	11	2	18	134	62	1484	17	187	98	161	47	.....	54	41	2 50	...	Robert Dilworth.
Erie.....	10	1	4	27	254	28	1441	29	144	44	183	19	50	28	2 50	140	John V. Reynolds.
Clarion.....	6	...	...	12	49	9	862	...	65	11	22	7	12	24	2 00	.....	David Polk.

PRESBYTERIES.	Ministers.	Licentates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Com. added on Examination.	Certificate.	Total of Communicants.	Adults Bap- tized.	Infants Bap- tized.	Funds raised		Funds raised for Foreign Missions.	Funds raised for Education.	Funds raised for Board of Publication.	Funds raised for Theological Seminaries.	Commission- ers' Fund.	Contingent Fund.	Miscellaneous Collections.	STATED CLERKS OF PRESBYTERIES.
										\$	\$								
Washington	24	3	10	26	198	124	3905	46	305	\$696	\$	\$1090	\$777	\$17	\$92	\$86	\$16 50	\$326	John Eagleson.
Steubenville.....	17	1	2	25	196	72	2355	36	215	477	625	129	161	..	129	40	50	29	John W. Scott.
St. Clairsville.....	12	..	..	..	89	58	1105	25	130	104	114	17	..	..	7	40	..	..	Benjamin Mitchell.
New Lisbon	12	..	3	25	103	42	1508	21	180	190	229	70	70	..	79	36	2 00	..	William O. Stratton.
Columbus	11	1	1	17	60	28	1131	16	51	167	271	113	..	..	..	50	5 00	..	James Hoge, D. D.
Marion	7	2	..	19	39	39	778	22	59	5	23	..	..	..	..	31	2 00	10	John A. Dunlap.
Lancaster	14	1	..	28	133	84	2233	23	171	385	342	9	44	..	9	89	9 00	343	James Culbertson.
Richland.....	14	6	4	27	97	90	1762	13	215	81	122	43	..	..	..	57	7 00	40	James Rowland.
Wootter.....	21	..	1	36	237	98	2509	41	214	281	392	115	..	..	..	93	8 25	351	James B. Morrow.
Chillicothe	13	..	2	20	71	28	2064	14	95	20	187	..	..	..	3	45	2 00	700	John P. Vandyke.
Miami	9	6	3	25	135	69	1554	49	127	334	280	38	..	..	13	69	5 50	475	James C. Barnes.
Cincinnati.....	10	3	2	16	76	68	1190	16	86	293	518	65	..	3	..	134	13 50	391	S. Ramsey Wilson.
Oxford	18	3	9	30	55	67	1536	11	47	212	93	..	..	..	6	5	..	..	Thomas E. Hughes.
Sidney	8	..	..	..	152	39	1041	43	98	89	102	..	..	..	64	48	1 00	107	John A. Meeks.
Maumee	5	..	..	10	15	27	300	5	24	7	14	..	..	..	..	8	..	..	John M. Crabb.
Salom	6	4	9	16	115	38	857	33	17	159	107	121	..	..	122	..	..	333	James Wood.
Vincennes	9	..	..	14	94	30	766	26	50	108	37	..	..	..	35	12	75	20	James Crawford.
Madison	9	..	..	16	56	26	405	20	62	110	60	77	..	..	30	45	10 00	275	D. Lattimore.
Crawfordsville	8	1	..	17	76	39	799	21	88	104	35	100	..	..	35	68	..	..	Wm. F. Ferguson.
Indianapolis.....	10	1	2	16	119	39	1178	27	80	382	90	..	..	..	218	85	5 00	30	D. M. Stewart.
Logansport	10	1	1	28	129	75	1128	33	62	126	66	20	..	..	26	29	..	..	A. Williamson.
Mehigan	6	1	1	9	3	5	269	2	7	36	..	5	..	..	..	14	..	..	Wm. C. Kniffin.
Kaskaskia	8	1	..	20	77	66	649	28	71	29	69	..	..	..	..	28	..	..	Thomas A. Spilman.
Sangamon.....	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	James M. Chase.
Sebayler	10	..	3	15	25	29	424	9	21	32	25	..	..	..	..	9	..	..	John Mark Fulton.
Iowa	7	..	..	18	54	100	323	9	17	12	..	..	..	..	..	27	..	..	R. H. Lilly.
Palestine.....	9	..	2	15	77	37	539	26	35	..	106	..	..	..	..	..	1 00	..	Isaac Keller.
Peoria	5	..	..	11	27	15	305	5	15	39	41	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	Wm. G. Bell.
Missouri	7	1	..	17	155	38	718	61	55	85	..	..	..	..	..	63	..	..	John F. Cowan.
St. Louis.....	11	..	1	20	38	62	815	11	56	520	271	..	..	..	528	27	11 50	17	F. B. McElroy.
Palmyra	6	..	3	17	133	39	679	62	38	..	30	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	W. L. Breckinridge.
Louisville	14	3	..	25	207	29	1404	83	88	418	774	911	..	..	..	111	..	..	John Montgomery.
Muhlenburg.....	14	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Transylvania.....	14	5	1	23	241	41	1774	134	79	633	770	545	..	..	..	129	5 00	..	..

West Lexington	151	3	2	27	196	54	2070	80	103	600	444	344	...	...	123	17	50	487	Charles A. Campbell.
Ebenezer	12	5	...	26	70	32	612	21	95	113	50	.....	...	...	56	.....	.....	....	R. C. Grundy.
Greenbrier	9	1	...	19	50	3	340	8	25	.....	88	.....	...	...	...	.....	.....	25	Joseph Brown.
Lexington	34	5	5	40	54	56	3642	12	121	402	493	146	10	96	149	13	00	115	J. A. Van Lear.
Winchester	14	4	9	28	42	13	1471	10	58	313	415	218	...	38	54	3	00	.....	Peyton Harrison.
West Hanover	24	4	3	34	72	73	1309	30	46	155	446	127	...	160	74	.....	.....	.....	S. D. Stuart.
East Hanover	14	4	2	10	252	29	1147	70	106	379	1523	513	30	272	62	28	66	.....	John Leyburn.
Orange	28	2	5	42	90	33	2220	29	93	251	576	30	25	90	185	27	00	487	N. H. Harding.
Fayetteville	22	1	9	43	64	12	4021	15	125	69	230	8	...	...	97	1	50	.....	Colin Melver.
Concord	28	2	5	52	172	37	4987	41	340	145	572	135	...	...	71	10	00	.....	Stephen Frontis.
Holston	9	1	1	12	46	14	532	10	57	.....	146	.....	...	...	39	3	00	.....	Samuel Y. Wyly.
West Tennessee.	...	...	...	14	125	27	868	42	80	392	426	50	...	...	86	5	00	754	John T. Edgar, D. D.
Nashville	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
North Alabama.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Western District.....	16	2	3	29	83	78	748	16	109	250	135	330	7	...	100	5	00	100	Henry M. Kerr.
South Carolina.....	18	2	3	38	100	12	1635	44	64	40	146	431	...	...	316	.....	.....	.....	Samuel B. Lewers.
Bethel	14	1	3	21	64	19	1971	20	122	.....	77	108	...	3	90	3	00	.....	John Douglas.
Harmony	21	1	...	24	179	24	2047	40	94	506	...	53	...	30	288	.....	.....	.....	William Brearly.
Charleston.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Georgia.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hopewell	21	2	1	38	50	38	1019	21	23	240	112	50	7	...	139	.....	.....	.....	Francis Bowman.
Flint River.....	7	...	...	...	7	7	220	2	24	129	85	53	...	...	...	8	00	24	Joshua Phelps.
Florida	9	4	3	15	93	42	888	37	97	201	530	140	5	...	148	4	00	90	T. S. Witherspoon.
South Alabama	14	2	2	24	189	56	992	77	66	22	533	.....	...	...	168	11	75	...	James N. Carothers.
Tombecbee	10	1	2	25	22	18	444	8	34	25	.....	.....	...	...	...	.....	.....	...	Thomas C. Stuart.
East Alabama	11	3	1	27	200	69	1158	51	73	27	171	3	...	...	178	.....	.....	...	David Finley.
Mississippi.....	11	1	7	16	39	27	797	5	71	821	1033	215	263	...	148	12	00	...	J. Chamberlain, D. D.
Clinton.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Arkansas.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Louisiana	12	1	...	12	33	8	303	9	40	141	318	.....	25	...	92	7	50	3063	Benjamin Chaso.
Holly Springs	6	...	...	11	48	36	320	9	30	21	18	.....	...	...	62	4	00	.....	James Weatherby.
Lodianna	4	...	...	1	...	...	12	...	3	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	John Newton.
Furukabad	4	...	1	1	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	J. L. Scott.
Alabama I.....	6	...	1	1	...	...	8	...	...	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	Joseph Owen.
Totals	1316	192	229	1904	9941	4770	140433	2748	9567	29770	46541	17269	7578	13269	5654	898	05	41620	...

GENERAL REVIEW.

Notwithstanding the earnest solicitation that Presbyteries would adopt measures to have their statistical reports complete, some are still defective, and from the following Presbyteries no reports at all have been received—viz. Sangamon, Muhlenburg, West Tennessee, North Alabama, Charleston, Georgia, Flint River, Clinton, Arkansas; of these, Arkansas has not reported for several years. The neglect of so many Presbyteries is almost unprecedented, and it is to be regretted, as it renders the statistics of the Church in every department incomplete.

During the past year the Presbyteries of Long Island and Long Island 2d have been amalgamated, and are now known as the Presbytery of Long Island. *Four* new Presbyteries have been formed by their respective Synods—viz. Holly Springs, by the Synod of Mississippi; Clarion, by the Synod of Pittsburgh; East Alabama, by the Synod of Alabama; and Maumee by the Synod of Cincinnati; and three new Presbyteries have been formed in Northern India, agreeably to the direction of the Assembly—viz. Lodiana, Furrukabad, and Allahabad; in all seven new Presbyteries during the past year.

During the year also the Synod of Wheeling has been organized, agreeably to the directions of the General Assembly of 1841, embracing the Presbyteries of Washington, Steubenville, St. Clairsville, and New Lisbon. The Synod of Northern India has not been, from peculiar circumstances, formally organized, but it is from convenience inserted in the list of Synods.

There have been reported one thousand three hundred and sixteen ordained ministers, one hundred and ninety-two licensed preachers, two hundred and twenty-nine candidates for the ministry, and one thousand nine hundred and four churches. If to these be added the numbers given in the last reports of the nine Presbyteries which are recorded above as delinquent, the numbers would be one thousand three hundred and ninety-nine ordained ministers, two hundred licentiates, two hundred and thirty-seven candidates, and two thousand and twenty-five churches. Exclusive of the nine delinquent Presbyteries, the number of communicants reported is one hundred and forty thousand four hundred and thirty-three, and the sum collected for religious objects is one hundred and sixty-two thousand five hundred and twenty dollars.

As far as reported, there have been *sixty-four* licentiates, *sixty-eight* ordinations, *forty-four* churches organized and received, *eighty* installations, and the following *twenty-one* deaths of clergymen reported, viz.:

NAMES.	PRESBYTERIES.
Rev. William Johnston	Redstone.
" Shadraek Howell Terry.....	Blairsville.
" Andrew A. Shannon.....	Louisville.
" Robert Lee.....	Marion.
" Alexander E. Wilson	Concord (Miss. to Africa).
" John Boyd.....	Hudson.
" Samuel G. Winchester.....	Mississippi.
" Samuel Tait.....	Erie.
" Robert G. Linn.....	Miami.
" Robert Holman.....	South Alabama.
" Wesley Davis.....	Ditto.
" John Breckinridge, D. D.....	Baltimore.
" John Brackinridge.....	Late District of Columbia.
" John H. Redington.....	Caledonia.

NAMES.

PRESBYTERIES.

Rev. Jonathan P. Alward.....	Elizabethtown (Miss. to Africa).
“ Simeon H. Crane.....	Madison.
“ Robert Rankin.....	Logansport.
“ William Wallace.....	St. Clairsville.
“ Philo F. Phelps.....	Florida.
“ John B. McCoy.....	Washington.
“ Darius O. Griswold*.....	Albany.

In this list the names of Mr. Terry and Mr. Tait were informally reported last year.

WM. M. ENGLS, *Stated Clerk of Gen. Assembly.*

NOTE.—Agreeably to the direction of the General Assembly, the odd cents have been cast out of the Statistical Reports, except under the head of Contingent Fund, but the totals are correct, including the cents thus cast off. This is done to leave room for the column of miscellaneous collections; and it is earnestly requested that Stated Clerks of Presbyteries will hereafter abstain from reporting cents, as the requisite alteration causes much difficulty in preparing the tables for the press.

*Since the reports were made out several deaths have occurred, as that of Mr. Wharey of Virginia, and Dr. Blythe of Kentucky.

1843.

PHILADELPHIA, *May 18th*, 1843.

THE General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America met, agreeably to appointment, in the Central Presbyterian Church, in the city of Philadelphia, on Thursday, the 18th day of May, A. D. 1843, at 11 o'clock, A. M.; and (the Moderator of the last Assembly being absent) was opened with a sermon by the Rev. Robert J. Breckinridge, D. D., from Acts xv. 14: "Simeon hath declared how God, at the first, did visit the Gentiles, to take out of them a people for his name."

After the sermon, Dr. Breckinridge, being the last Moderator present, took the chair and opened the session with prayer.

The Permanent Clerk, from the Standing Committee of Commissions, reported that the following persons, present, have been duly appointed and are hereby enrolled as Commissioners to this General Assembly, and laid their Commissions on the table, viz.:

I. OF THE SYNOD OF ALBANY.

PRESBYTERIES.	BISHOPS.	RULING ELDERS.
<i>Londonderry,</i>	David P. Smith.	
<i>Ogdensburg.</i>		
<i>Troy,</i>	Charles Wadsworth,	Charles H. Kellogg.
<i>Albany,</i>	Eliphalet Nott, D. D.,	
	Joshua H. McIlvaine (4).*	
<i>Columbia.</i>		

II. OF THE SYNOD OF NEW YORK.

<i>Hudson,</i>	Edward D. G. Prime.	
<i>North River,</i>	John Johnston (2),	Bernard Bailey.
<i>Bedford,</i>	Edward Wright,	Seth Lyon (5).
<i>Long Island,</i>	Joseph A. Copp,	Jarvis R. Rolph.
<i>New York,</i>	Gardiner Spring, D. D.,	Hugh Auchincloss.
	John Goldsmith,	Thompson Price.
<i>New York 2d,</i>	John Johnstone.	

III. OF THE SYNOD OF NEW JERSEY.

<i>Elizabethtown,</i>	Nicholas Murray,	Thomas G. Allen.
	Robert Street,	Benj. McDowell.
<i>New Brunswick,</i>	John MacLean, D. D.,	John T. Woodhull.
	Dan. V. McLean,	George P. Molleson (5).
<i>Newton,</i>	David X. Junkin,	James Hiles.
	David Longmore,	James Wilson (5).
<i>Raritan,</i>	Jacob Kirkpatrick,	William Wilson (2).
<i>Susquehanna,</i>	John Dorrance,	John G. Fell.
<i>Steuben,</i>	Isaac W. Platt (1).	
<i>Wyoming,</i>	John C. Lord, D. D. (1),	Saml. Wilkeson (1).

* A figure affixed to the name of a member shows that he was not enrolled by the Committee of Commissions in their report at the opening of the Assembly, but that he was subsequently enrolled and took his seat on that day of the sessions designated by the figure.

IV. OF THE SYNOD OF PHILADELPHIA.

PRESBYTERIES.	BISHOPS.	RULING ELDERS.
<i>Philadelphia,</i>	Archibald Tudehope,	James N. Dickson.
	Thomas L. Janeway,	James Dunlap.
<i>Philadelphia 2d,</i>	Wm. D. Howard,	James Algeo.
<i>West Jersey,</i>	Moses Williamson,	Moses Richmond.
<i>New Castle,</i>	John M. Diekey,	Kensey Johns, Jr.
<i>Donegal,</i>	John McNair (1).	
<i>Baltimore,</i>	James Laurie, D. D.,	David English.
<i>Carlisle,</i>	John T. M. Davie,	David Dunwoody.
	Daniel McKinley,	John Mower.
<i>Huntingdon,</i>	Benjamin Carrell,	Cyrus Crisswell (1).
<i>Northumberland,</i>	Elbridge Bradbury,	John B. Boyd.

V. OF THE SYNOD OF PITTSBURGH.

<i>Redstone,</i>	Samuel Wilson,	Jesse H. Duncan.
<i>Ohio,</i>	Lewis W. Green, D. D.,	Luke Loomis.
	Clement V. McKaig,	James Gordon (2).
<i>Erie,</i>	Robert Glenn.	
<i>Beaver,</i>	John Knox.	
<i>Allegheny,</i>	Loyal Young,	Henry N. Boyd.
<i>Blairsville,</i>	George Hill,	Robert Rainey (2).
<i>Clarion,</i>	David Polk.	

VI. OF THE SYNOD OF WHEELING.

<i>Steubenville,</i>	Thomas Hunt,	Jeremiah Hallock.
<i>Washington,</i>	John Eagleson,	Robert Patterson.
	James Sloan (2),	Russel Moore (2).
<i>New Lisbon,</i>	Thomas McDermot.	
<i>St. Clairsville,</i>	Moses Allen,	John Campbell.

VII. OF THE SYNOD OF OHIO.

<i>Columbus,</i>	James Hoge, D. D.,	Matthew McCrea.
<i>Lancaster,</i>	William Wylie.	
<i>Marion,</i>	Allen C. Miller (2),	Joseph Moody.
<i>Richland,</i>	Chauncey Leavenworth.	
<i>Wooster,</i>	Edward R. Geary,	John Stirling.

VIII. OF THE SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

<i>Chillicothe,</i>	Samuel Steel.	
<i>Miami,</i>	James Coe,	John S. Todd.
<i>Cincinnati,</i>	Ludwell G. Gaines,	Thomas McGeechin.
<i>Oxford,</i>	Francis Monfort.	
<i>Sidney,</i>	Hugh R. Price,	James A. McLain.
<i>Maumee,</i>	William McGookin.	

IX. OF THE SYNOD OF INDIANA.

<i>Salem,</i>	Josiah Crawford.
<i>Vincennes.</i>	
<i>Madison,</i>	James A. McKee (1).
<i>Crawfordsville,</i>	William F. Ferguson (2).

PRESBYTERIES.

Indianapolis,
Logansport,
Michigan.
Lake,

BISHOPS.

William Sickles.
Alex. T. Rankin.

James C. Brown (2).

RULING ELDERS.

X. OF THE SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.

Kaskaskia.
Sangamon,
Schuyler,
Peoria,
Palestine.
Iowa,

John G. Bergen.
Ithamar Pillsbury (3).
William J. Fraser, Samuel Lowry.

Michael Hummer.

XI. OF THE SYNOD OF MISSOURI.

Missouri.
St. Louis,
Palmyra.

Hiram Chamberlain.

XII. OF THE SYNOD OF KENTUCKY.

Louisville,
Muhlenburg,
Transylvania,
West Lexington,
Ebenezer,

Wm. L. Breckinridge, Wm. Q. Morton.
Joseph Templeton (2).
John Montgomery, Robt. N. Moran (1).
John D. Matthews, Daniel B. Price.
John S. Watt.

XIII. OF THE SYNOD OF VIRGINIA.

Greenbrier,
Lexington,

Winchester,
West Hanover,

East Hanover,

Stuart Robinson, William Rand.
Henry H. Paine, Frederick Johnston.
Nicholas Chevalier, John Alexander.
Wm. M. Atkinson, James C. Baker.
Samuel D. Stuart, John A. Smith.
Saml. L. Graham, D. D., Wm. B. Miller.
John Leyburn, Michael Gretter.

XIV. OF THE SYNOD OF NORTH CAROLINA.

Orange,

Fayetteville,
Concord,

Daniel Stratton, Saml. V. Watkins.
Thomas R. Owen, John Wilson.
Archibald Baker.
James D. Hall (2), Michael Brown.

XV. OF THE SYNOD OF WEST TENNESSEE.

Holston,
West Tennessee.
Nashville,
North Alabama.
Western District,

Wm. B. Carter, Jr.

Andrew H. Kerr (5).

David H. Cummings.

XVI. OF THE SYNOD OF SOUTH CAROLINA AND GEORGIA.

South Carolina,
Bethel,
Harmony,

James Gillam (3).
Andrew H. Caldwell.
Donald J. Auld (3), Wm. E. James.

PRESBYTERIES.	BISHOPS.	RULING ELDERS.
<i>Charleston,</i>	Aaron W. Leland, D. D.,	Gilbert T. Snowden (3).
<i>Georgia,</i>	Wm. McWhir, D. D. (3).	
<i>Hopewell,</i>	Geo. H. W. Petrie (3).	
<i>Flint River.</i>		
<i>Florida,</i>	Joel S. Graves.	

XVII. OF THE SYNOD OF ALABAMA.

<i>South Alabama,</i>	Robert Nall.
<i>Tuscaloosa,</i>	Alexander Smith.
<i>East Alabama,</i>	Robert H. Chapman.

XVIII. OF THE SYNOD OF MISSISSIPPI.

<i>Mississippi,</i>	William Montgomery.	
<i>Louisiana,</i>	James Purviance,	James M. Gallent (3).
<i>Clinton,</i>	John A. Smylie,	Nath. G. North.
<i>Tombeckbee,</i>	Horatio J. Bardwell.	
<i>Chickasaw.</i>		
<i>Arkansas,</i>	John T. Baleh (5).	
<i>Indian.</i>		

XIX. OF THE SYNOD OF NORTHERN INDIA,

In connection with the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

Lodiana.
Furrukabad.
Allahabad.

CORRESPONDING BODIES.

	BISHOPS.	LAYMEN.
<i>General Association of</i>		
<i>Connecticut,</i>		
<i>Evangelical Consocia-</i>		
<i>tion of Rhode Island,</i>	Thomas Shepherd.	
<i>General Association of</i>	Joseph Alden, D. D.	
<i>Massachusetts,</i>	Parsons Cooke.	
<i>General Convention of</i>		
<i>Vermont.</i>		
<i>General Association of</i>	Austin Richards.	
<i>New Hampshire,</i>		
<i>General Conference of</i>	Stephen D. Ward.	
<i>Maine,</i>		
<i>General Synod of the</i>		
<i>Reformed Protest-</i>	Samuel B. How, D. D.	
<i>ant Dutch Church,</i>		
<i>General Synod of the</i>		
<i>German Reformed</i>	Albert Helffenstein.	
<i>Church,</i>		

The committee further reported that Messrs. Robert N. Moran, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Transylvania; Cyrus Criswell, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Huntingdon, and James A. McKee, bishop, from the Presbytery of Madison, are present without their commissions; that Mr.

David M. Smith, bishop, from the Presbytery of Columbia, has presented a certificate from the Stated Clerk of that Presbytery of his appointment at a stated meeting of the Presbytery when there was not a quorum present, also, the written assent of other members of the Presbytery to the appointment; and that the following persons have presented commissions from new Presbyteries—viz. John C. Lord, D. D., bishop, from the Presbytery of Wyoming; Isaac W. Platt, bishop, from the Presbytery of Steuben; and John McNair, bishop, from the Presbytery of Donegal.

The committee further reported that the Rev. E. W. Andrews has presented a certificate from the General Association of New York as a delegate, and an overture from that body for a correspondence with the General Assembly.

The Stated Clerk reported that he had received official information that the Presbyteries of Steuben and Wyoming were erected by the Synod of New Jersey, dividing the Presbytery of Caledonia; the Presbytery of Donegal, by the Synod of Philadelphia; the Indian Presbytery, by the Synod of Mississippi; and the Lake Presbytery, by the Synod of Indiana; also, that the name of the Presbytery of Holly Springs had been changed to Chickasaw by the Synod of Mississippi; whereupon on motion

Resolved, That the aforesaid Presbyteries be enrolled accordingly, and the Commissioners present therefrom be admitted to their seats.

On motion, Messrs. Atkinson, Maclean, Steel, Janeway, Auchincloss, D. B. Price, Watkins, and James were appointed a committee of elections, to whom were referred the defective commissions.

And then the Assembly took a recess until this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Tuesday afternoon, 4 o'clock.

The Assembly met.

The Committee of Elections reported that they had received satisfactory evidence that Messrs. Robert N. Moran, James A. McKee, and Cyrus Crisswell have been duly appointed by their respective Presbyteries Commissioners to this General Assembly, and recommended that they be enrolled. The report was adopted.

The Committee of Elections further reported in the case of Mr. David M. Smith that it appeared to their satisfaction that the Presbytery of Columbia failed to form a quorum at the time at which their stated spring meeting should have been held according to adjournment; that there were present two ministers and ruling elders from a majority of the churches, the Presbytery consisting only of five ministers, that those present requested that the Assembly would receive Mr. Smith as a Commissioner from their Presbytery, in which request two of the absent ministers have expressed their concurrence in writing, and that it is believed the appointment of Mr. Smith would have been unanimous had the Presbytery formed a quorum; and further that the committee are divided upon the question whether under these circumstances Mr. Smith ought or ought not to be admitted to a seat.

It was moved that Mr. Smith be admitted to a seat. After debate, the question was decided in the negative.

The Rev. Gardiner Spring, D. D., was elected Moderator, and the Rev. Nicholas Murray, Temporary Clerk.

On motion, the report of the Committee on Commissions respecting the overture from the General Association of New York was taken up, and referred to Messrs. Nott, Lord, Goldsmith, Woodhull, and Auchincloss.

The docket was presented by the Stated Clerk; which was read.

A report was received from the Rev. Melancthon W. Jacobus, delegate

to the last General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church, of his attendance thereat, and friendly reception.

On motion, Messrs. Leland, McLean, and Hoge were appointed a committee to designate the order and times for receiving the annual reports of the Assembly's Boards.

The Presbyteries were called on for their votes on the question referred to them by the last Assembly (printed *Minutes*, page 230) respecting ministers demitting the exercise of their office; which were referred to Messrs. Laurie, Hill, and Green.

And then the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday morning, May 19th, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee of Commissions reported the following additional Commissioners, who were enrolled, viz.:

PRESBYTERIES.	BISHOPS.	RULING ELDERS.
<i>North River,</i>	John Johnston.	
<i>Blairsville,</i>		Robert Rainey.
<i>Ohio,</i>		James Gordon.
<i>Washington,</i>	James Sloan,	Russel Moore.
<i>Marion,</i>	Allen C. Miller.	
<i>Muhlenburg,</i>	Joseph Templeton.	
<i>Crawfordsville,</i>	Wm. F. Ferguson.	
<i>Concord,</i>	James D. Hall.	

The committee further reported that Mr. James C. Brown, bishop, has presented a commission from the Lake Presbytery. The Stated Clerk reported that he had received official information that the Lake Presbytery was erected by the Synod of Indiana. Whereupon, it was

Resolved, That the Presbytery be enrolled, and the Commissioner therefrom admitted to his seat.

The Moderator appointed the following standing committees, viz.:

On Bills and Overtures.—Messrs. Nott, Graham, Maelean, Dorrance, Lord, Chamberlain, John Wilson, and Bailey.

Judicial Committee.—Messrs. Leland, Hoge, Junkin, Young, Green, Steel, Smylie, John Wilson, Diekson, and M. Brown.

On Leave of Absence.—Messrs. Kirkpatrick, Platt, Janeway, Matthews, North, and Johns.

On Mileage.—Messrs. Diekson, Wilkeson, Todd, and Alexander.

On Devotional Exercises.—Messrs. Goldsmith, Diekey, Wylie, Matthews, Purviance, and T. Price.

On the Narrative of the State of Religion.—Messrs. Leland, Maelean, Copp, and Leyburn.

On Foreign Correspondence.—Messrs. Green and Breekinridge.

On Finance.—Messrs. Atkinson, McLean, McKinley, Gretter, and Auchincloss.

On Synodical records, viz.:

Albany.—Messrs. Prime, Steel, and Auchincloss.

New York.—Messrs. D. P. Smith, Street, and Lowry.

New Jersey.—Messrs. Wadsworth, Johnstone, and Moran.

Philadelphia.—Messrs. J. Montgomery, H. R. Price, and Campbell.

Pittsburgh.—Messrs. Watt, Purviance, and D. B. Price.

Wheeling.—Messrs. Wright, Bergen, and Kellogg.

Ohio—Messrs. Crawford, Carrell, and Richmond.

Cincinnati—Messrs. Fraser, Laurie, and Moody.

Indiana—Messrs. M. Allen, Bradbury, and Patterson.

Illinois—Messrs. McDermot, Glenn, and Sterling.

Missouri—Messrs. Dickey, Sickles, and Dunwoody.

Kentucky—Messrs. Davie, Longmore, and James.

Virginia—Messrs. Caldwell, Williamson, and Loomis.

North Carolina—Messrs. W. Montgomery, Leyburn, and W. B. Milner.

West Tennessee—Messrs. Gaines, Knox, and Duncan.

South Carolina and Georgia—Messrs. Robinson, McKee, and Crisswell.

Alabama—Messrs. Stuart, Owen, and Dunlap.

Mississippi—Messrs. Carter, Nall, and McCrea.

The annual report of the Treasurer of the Trustees of the General Assembly was presented, and his book of accounts was laid upon the table. The report was read and referred to the Committee on Finance.

The Presbyteries were called on for narratives of the state of religion; which were referred to the Committee on the Narrative.

The committee on the times and order in which the annual reports of the several Boards shall be presented to the Assembly made a report which was adopted as follows, viz.:

That the standing order adopted in 1838 be observed on the present occasion; that the Board of Foreign Missions present their report on Tuesday next at ten o'clock, A. M., and printed copies of said report may be delivered to the members at any time previous; the Board of Missions on Wednesday; the Board of Education on Thursday; and the Board of Publication on Friday—at the same hour on each day.

A report was received from the committee appointed by the last Assembly on the bi-centenary period of the Westminster Assembly (see printed *Minutes*, p. 218), which was read and referred to Messrs. Hoge, MacLean, Lord, Green, and J. Johnston.

Reports were received from the delegates to the General Associations of Connecticut and Massachusetts, which were read and ordered to be printed in the Appendix.

A memorial was received from the Presbytery of Sidney, requesting the Assembly to take order against granting its members leave of absence. Whereupon,

Resolved, That the Committee on Leave of Absence be instructed to give leave to members of the Assembly to be absent from the sessions only for manifestly sufficient reasons, and, in general, for such reasons as have arisen since the Assembly has convened.

The annual report of the Directors of the Western Theological Seminary was presented, read, and referred to Messrs. Graham, Platt, Matthews, and M. Brown.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That it be a standing order of this Assembly to meet at nine o'clock in the morning, and to sit not later than one o'clock, when the Assembly shall have a recess until four o'clock, and the hour of adjournment shall be six o'clock, P. M.

On motion, the unfinished business of the last Assembly was taken up, viz.:

The complaint of F. H. Porter against the Synod of Alabama, which was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning at ten o'clock.

The complaint of H. A. Boardman and others against the Synod of Philadelphia was withdrawn by the complainants, by leave of the House.

The complaint of the Presbytery of Cincinnati against the Synod of Cin-

cinnati, which was made the order of the day for Monday morning at ten o'clock.

The complaint of D. Montfort and others against the Synod of Indiana was withdrawn by the complainants, by leave of the House.

The overture of the Presbytery of Chillicothe on the subject of slavery, which was laid on the table.

And then the Assembly took a recess.

Friday afternoon.

The Committee of Commissions reported additional Commissioners—viz. William Wilson, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Raritan, who was enrolled; and William McWhir, D. D., bishop, from the Presbytery of Georgia, whose commission wants the signature of the Moderator; which case was referred to the Committee of Elections.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures reported Overtures Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, which were disposed of as follows, viz.:

No. 1. A communication from Rev. Dr. Justin Edwards on the sanctification of the Sabbath; on which subject the committee submitted a minute, which was adopted, as follows, viz.:

Whereas, the Sabbath is a divine institution of perpetual and universal obligation; therefore

Resolved, first, That the sanctification of the Sabbath is a duty incumbent upon all men at all times.

Second, That such is its fundamental importance to all the great interests of the human race, and such its bearing upon all the efforts for the intellectual elevation, the moral purity, the social happiness, and the eternal salvation of men, that its due observance ought to receive the earnest attention, the fervent prayers, and the hearty, active, and persevering co-operation of all the friends of God and man throughout the world.

Third, That it be enjoined upon all the ministers belonging to the Presbyterian Church to preach especially upon the sanctification of the Sabbath, and that it be earnestly recommended, both to pastors and people, not only to sanctify the Sabbath themselves, but also to co-operate in the furtherance of any measures suggested by others that may seem calculated to secure its sanctification throughout the world.

Fourth, And, whereas Doctor Edwards has for some time past been engaged in securing the co-operation of Christians in bringing about a more strict and more general observance of the Sabbath, that an opportunity be afforded him to address this Assembly on that subject immediately.

The Assembly was then addressed by Dr. Edwards.

Overture No. 2. The petition of the Presbytery of West Jersey to be set off from the Synod of Philadelphia and attached to the Synod of New Jersey. *Resolved,* That the request be, and it hereby is, granted.

Overture No. 3. Petition of the Presbyteries of Steuben, Wyoming, and Ogdensburg to be set off from the Synods of Albany and New Jersey and erected into a Synod.

On which subject the committee submitted the following minute, which was adopted, viz.:

Whereas the General Assembly in 1838 enacted (see printed *Minutes*, p. 38) that "if as many as three Presbyteries can be conveniently formed in Western New York, they should be constituted into a Synod, and shall cover the entire territory heretofore occupied by the three Synods of Utica, Geneva, and Genesee; therefore

Resolved, That the Presbyteries of Steuben, Wyoming, and Ogdensburg, which have been formed in that territory, be constituted into a Synod to be

known by the name of the Synod of Buffalo, whose boundaries shall be according to the said act of the Assembly of 1838; and that the first meeting of said Synod be held in the city of Buffalo, in the First Presbyterian Church in connection with this Assembly, on the second Wednesday of August next, at two o'clock, P. M.; that the sessions of the Synod be opened with a sermon by the Rev. Isaac W. Platt, of the Presbytery of Steuben, and in case of his absence by the senior bishop present, and that the Synod afterward convene on their own adjournment.

Overture No. 4. A communication from the Presbytery of New Lisbon in relation to the religious instruction of slaves, which the committee recommended to be referred to the Board of Missions. The recommendation was agreed to.

On motion, the following minute was adopted, viz.:

Whereas the most obvious duty of every church is to make ample provision for the religious instruction and spiritual edification of the people placed by Providence in immediate proximity therewith; and whereas it is the duty of the General Assembly to suggest in pastoral fidelity the best method of doing the work assigned to the Church by her adorable Head; and whereas our country is filling up with unparalleled rapidity, so that there is good ground of apprehension that the extension of the Presbyterian Church is far more slow than is consistent with the solemn responsibilities under which we as a Church act, therefore

Resolved, That a committee of nine members be appointed to take into consideration the great subject, and report to this Assembly such facts and suggestions as may in their judgment be of importance in guiding the action of all our people to such results as may gladden the hearts of all good men in our communion.

The following persons were appointed the committee—viz. Messrs. Nott, Laurie, Breckinridge, Dorrance, Cooke, Hoge, Johns, Johnston, and M. Brown.

The Synodical records were called for, and referred to the committee thereon respectively.

And then the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday morning, May 20.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee of Commissions reported the following additional Commissioners, who were enrolled—viz. Ithamar Pillsbury, bishop, from the Presbytery of Schuyler; Gilbert T. Snowden, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Charleston; George H. W. Petrie, bishop, from the Presbytery of Hope-well; James M. Gallent, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Louisiana; Donald J. Auld, bishop, from the Presbytery of Harmony; James Gillam, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of South Carolina.

The Committee of Elections reported that they had received satisfactory evidence that the Rev. Wm. McWhir, D. D., was duly appointed a Commissioner to this Assembly by the Presbytery of Georgia. Whereupon Dr. McWhir was enrolled. The Permanent Clerk reported the following items of judicial business, which were referred to the Judicial Committee, viz.:

1. The complaint of D. V. Smock and others against the decision of the Synod of Indiana for sustaining the complaint of Rev. Colin McKinney against the Presbytery of Indianapolis, for refusing to grant him a dismission.

2. The complaint of John M. Dickey and others against the Synod of Philadelphia for dividing the Presbytery of New Castle.

3. The appeal of Abigail Hanna from a decision of the Synod of Wheeling, sustaining certain decisions of the Presbytery of Washington and the Session of Three Ridge Church on a case not described in the documents.

On motion, the vote of yesterday, by which the complaint of D. Montfort against the Synod of Indiana was withdrawn, was reconsidered, and it was ordered that the case be put on the docket.

On motion, the complaint of S. D. Blythe against the Synod of Philadelphia, referred by the last General Assembly, was dismissed, the case having been settled.

The Judicial Committee reported the complaint of D. V. Smock, etc., against the Synod of Indiana, and the complaint of John M. Dickey, etc., against the Synod of Philadelphia, in order. Which were put on the docket.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures reported Overtures Nos. 5, 7, 8, 9, and 10, which were disposed of as follows, viz.:

Overture No. 5. A memorial from the Presbytery of Huntingdon respecting the conversion of the Jews; which was referred to the Board of Foreign Missions, to take such order as may be expedient.

Overture No. 7. From the Presbytery of Miami the question, Whether ordained ministers of the gospel ought not to be considered church members, and to have their names enrolled on the sessional records of the church where they are settled as pastors or stated supplies?—which question the committee recommended to be answered in the negative. After debate the recommendation was adopted.

Overture No. 8. From the Presbytery of Tombeckbee two questions: 1. Is it orderly that a member of one Presbytery moderate a church Session of another Presbytery? 2. Is the ordination of a minister *valid* which has been procured by forgery and unwarrantable means?—with the answers proposed to be given thereto. Put on the docket.

Overture No. 9. A communication from John Read in relation to a legacy left to the Presbyterian Church by Jane Porter, which was referred to the Trustees of the General Assembly.

Overture No. 10. A memorial from the Presbytery of Lodiana requesting the opinion of the Assembly respecting the baptism of orphan children of heathen parents; with an answer proposed to be given thereto. Put on the docket.

The order of the day was taken up, and the Assembly sat in a judicial capacity on the complaint of F. H. Porter against the Synod of Alabama for sustaining the Presbytery of Tombeckbee in refusing to restore the Rev. Thomas Davis after the Synod had sustained his appeal against the Presbytery, and reversed the decision of the Presbytery suspending him from the ministry and from the communion of the church.

The complaint was read, and Mr. Alexander Smith was heard on behalf of Mr. Porter. The Synod was then heard; and after debate the question was put, *Shall the complaint be sustained?* and decided in the negative. And then the court rose and the Assembly resumed.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises made a report, which was adopted as follows, viz.:

That the Assembly will spend the afternoon of Monday next in devotional exercises in the Central Church, in the following order, viz.:

1. Invocation and reading the Scriptures, by the Moderator.
2. Psalmody, by Mr. Bergen.
3. Address, by Mr. Cooke.
4. Prayer, by Mr. Shepherd.
5. Psalmody, by Mr. Richards.
6. Address, by Dr. Leland.

7. Prayer, by Mr. J. Johnston.

8. Doxology and Benediction, by Dr. Laurie.

On motion,

Resolved, That the annual sermon on popery be preached on Thursday evening next in the Central Church, by the Rev. Henry A. Boardman, agreeably to the appointment by the last Assembly.

And then the Assembly adjourned till Monday morning, at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday morning, May 22.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee of Commissions reported the following additional Commissioners, who were enrolled—viz. Joshua H. McIlvaine, bishop, from the Presbytery of Albany; and Rev. Stephen D. Ward, from the General Conference of Maine.

The annual report of the Directors of the Theological Seminary at Princeton was presented, read, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix.

On motion, nominations were made for Directors of the Princeton Seminary, and the election was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

The annual report of the Union Theological Seminary was presented, read, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix.

A letter was received from Mr. Alexander Henry, tendering his resignation of the offices of Trustee of the General Assembly, Director of the Seminary at Princeton, and member of the Board of Education. Whereupon, on motion, it was

Resolved, That Mr. Henry be requested to continue in the places where the confidence of the General Assembly has placed him, with the understanding that he perform such of the duties thereof as his advanced years will permit.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 11—viz. from the Presbyteries of Logansport and Indianapolis, praying for an alteration of the boundary-line between the Synods of Indiana and Cincinnati; with a recommendation that the prayer of the petitioners be granted, and that the line dividing the States of Indiana and Ohio be the boundary between the Synods of Cincinnati and Indiana. Which after debate was referred to the next General Assembly. On motion,

Resolved, That the order of devotional exercises for this afternoon be so amended that the delegates from corresponding bodies be requested to give an account of the state of religion within their respective bounds.

The order of the day was taken up, and the Assembly sat in a judicial capacity on the complaint of the Presbytery of Cincinnati against the Synod of Cincinnati for setting off the church at Hamilton from the Presbytery of Cincinnati to the Presbytery of Oxford. The complaint, and the minutes of the Synod of Cincinnati in relation thereto, were read. The Presbytery and Synod were fully heard; and then it was, on motion,

Resolved, That the complaint be not sustained.

Then the court rose, and the Assembly resumed.

The Presbyteries were called on to state whether they had taken action in relation to such of their ministers as are not regularly engaged in their covenanted work (see printed *Minutes* for 1842, p. 230), when it appeared that they had generally attended to the injunction of the last Assembly.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures reported Overtures Nos. 12, 13, and 14, which were disposed of as follows, viz.:

Overture No. 12. The request of the Presbytery of Bethel to permit them to recognize the body known as Independent Presbyterians within their bounds, and commune with them. The committee submitted the following report upon this subject, which was adopted, viz. :

The committee having had the Commissioner from the Bethel Presbytery before them, and being informed that the body of Independent Presbyterians referred to consist only of about twenty churches and a small number of ministers, mostly within the bounds of the Bethel Presbytery, who are the best judges of their soundness in the faith; and it being further represented that the errors for which, in the year 1833, the General Assembly prohibited intercommunication have been abandoned by the aforesaid Independent Presbyterians—the committee do therefore recommend that the Bethel Presbytery have leave to establish such friendly relations as they may deem proper under the present circumstances, notwithstanding the resolutions of the General Assembly of 1833, which were passed at the request and upon the representation of the Bethel Presbytery, as appears from the printed *Minutes* of the General Assembly, vol. iii. p. 407.

Overture No. 13. From the Synods of New Jersey and Alabama, and from the Presbyteries of Western District, West Lexington, New York, Bedford, and Troy, respectively, overtures requesting the General Assembly to submit to the Presbyteries the question whether the last sentence of the fourth section of the twenty-fourth chapter of the Confession of Faith shall be erased.

On which the committee submitted the following resolution, viz. :

Resolved, That the Presbyteries be instructed to consider and decide whether the last sentence of the fourth section of chapter twenty-four of the Confession of Faith, which is as follows, "The man may not marry any of his wife's kindred nearer in blood than he may of his own, nor the woman of her husband's kindred nearer in blood than of her own," shall be erased from the said Confession of Faith, and to report their decision to the next General Assembly.

The minority of the committee, being three in number, presented a report in opposition thereto, which was read; and the consideration of the subject was made the order of the day for four o'clock on Wednesday afternoon.

Overture No. 14. A resolution of the West Lexington Presbytery declaring it to be their judgment that, according to the Constitution of our Church, ruling elders have the right to unite with preaching elders in laying on hands in the ordination of ministers.

The committee submitted the following resolution, viz. :

That it is the judgment of this General Assembly that neither the Constitution nor the practice of our Church authorizes ruling elders to impose hands in the ordination of ministers.

The consideration of the subject was made the order of the day for to-morrow afternoon at four o'clock.

A report was received from the Executive Committee of the Board of Foreign Missions on the subject of a charter, and requesting the instructions of the Assembly for their further prosecuting that object. The Assembly directed the Executive Committee to endeavor to procure a charter from the State of New York for Foreign Missionary purposes merely, and that the lay members of the Executive Committee and their successors be the Trustees.

A letter was received from the Board of Trustees of the General Assembly mentioning the death of Mr. John Stille, one of the Board; which was put on the docket.

A report was received from the Trustees of the General Assembly in relation to the report of the Committee of Finance of the last Assembly; which

was read, and referred to the Committee of Finance, and Mr. Johns was added to that committee.

The Assembly took up unfinished business of the last Assembly—viz. Mr. Talmage's resolution to overture the Presbyteries for such an alteration of the Constitution as to require the General Assembly to meet biennially instead of annually; and Mr. Smock's resolution to overture the Presbyteries for such an alteration of the Constitution as that the representation in the General Assembly shall be from the Synods, and not from the Presbyteries; and it was

Resolved, That it is inexpedient to take the action proposed by the foregoing resolutions.

On motion of Dr. Leland, the order of the Assembly respecting its daily sessions was reconsidered; and it was

Resolved, That instead of having a recess from one till four o'clock, the House will adjourn from one till four o'clock.

And then the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday afternoon.

The Assembly met, and attended to the religious exercises according to the order prescribed. And then the Assembly adjourned.

Tuesday morning, May 23.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

The Committee of Commissions reported the following additional Commissioners, who were enrolled—viz. George P. Molleson, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of New Brunswick; John T. Baleh, bishop, from the Presbytery of Arkansas; Andrew H. Kerr, bishop, from the Presbytery of Nashville; and James Wilson, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Newton.

The order of the day was taken up—viz. the election of persons to fill vacancies in the Board of Directors of the Theological Seminary at Princeton. On motion, the rule requiring this election to be made by ballot was suspended; and it was

Resolved, That the following persons, who were nominated yesterday, be appointed for *three years*:

BISHOPS.

Gard. Spring, D. D.,
W. A. McDowell, D. D.,
Wm. Neill, D. D.,
William Latta,
Wm. D. Snodgrass, D. D.,
Joseph McElroy, D. D.,
George W. Musgrave.

RULING ELDERS.

J. T. Woodhull, M. D.,
Hugh Auchincloss,
A. W. Mitchell, M. D.

An invitation was received from the American Philosophical Society to attend its one hundredth anniversary on Thursday next.

An invitation was received from the American Sunday-School Union to attend its anniversary this afternoon.

On motion, the reception of reports from the committee on Synodical records was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

On motion, Overture No. 10 was taken up, and the report submitted by the Committee of Bills and Overtures was considered, amended, and adopted as follows, viz.:

The Committee of Bills and Overtures on the Memorial from the Presbytery of Lodianna in relation to the baptism of orphan children of heathen parents recommend that the following answer be returned, viz.:

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, to the Presbytery of Lodianna.

DEAR BRETHREN: You have submitted to us questions respecting a subject which we have no doubt is one of very great importance in regard to the progress of religion among the heathen. We have seriously considered it, and give you here the result of our deliberations.

You present to us three questions, to which we reply in the order in which the same are presented.

1. "Are all orphan children of heathen parents committed to the care of our mission entitled to the benefit of the ordinance of baptism without respect to their ages?"

We reply, certainly they are not.

You must make the same distinction that you would make if their parents were alive and members of the Christian Church and desiring to have them baptized—the same distinction which is made in Christian countries. We add, let those children only be baptized in every case who are so committed to the mission or other Christian tuition as to secure effectually their entire religious education. On this point great caution is necessary.

2. You ask (on the presumption that the preceding question is answered in the negative), "Are those only to be baptized who have not attained to years of discretion?"

This question we answer in the affirmative.

3. Your third question is, in substance, as follows: "If those only who have not attained to years of discretion are to be baptized, at what age shall the federal right be supposed to cease and personal responsibility to commence?"

Although it is not difficult to answer this question in accordance with the standards and the practice of the Presbyterian Church, yet the rule may frequently be found difficult of application.

Our answer to the question, however, is, *The officers of the church* must judge in each particular case whether the proposed subject of baptism has arrived at years of discretion or not. We can adopt no other rule in our own practice, and we can recommend no other to you. We refer you to Chap. IX., sec. 2, of our Directory for Worship.

If the person proposed to be baptized has acquired that maturity of mind which renders him capable of making an intelligent profession of religion himself, he ought not to be baptized on the faith of another. Our Confession of Faith recognizes the right to baptism of the INFANT children only of such parents as are members of the Church. We do not doubt that in heathen countries children of heathen parents ordinarily arrive at what are called *years of discretion* later than those who enjoy the advantages of Christian instruction in early life, but in a country where the religion of all consists in forms and ceremonies great care should be taken that the Christian religion does not even APPEAR to partake of the formality and emptiness of Mohammedanism and paganism.

The hour having arrived, the Assembly proceeded to the order of the day. The annual report of the Board of Foreign Missions was presented by their Corresponding Secretary. Addresses were made, and the report was referred to Messrs. Hoge, Leland, Green, McLean, and McDowell.

A letter was received from the Board of Trustees of the General Assembly

requesting the directions of the Assembly as to the disposition of the unexpended remainder of the fund contributed for the lawsuit. Which was referred to the Committee of Finance.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures reported Overtures Nos. 15, 16, 17, which were disposed of as follows, viz. :

Overture No. 15. Certain memorials and papers respecting the Lane Seminary, with a resolution that it is inexpedient for the Assembly to take any measures for the purpose of commencing legal process in relation to Lane Seminary ; which was put on the docket.

Overture No. 16. From the Synod of New Jersey for an overture to the Presbyteries to authorize licensures for a limited time, with a resolution that under the existing rules of our Church it is competent for the Presbyteries, at their discretion, to assign a limit to the license which they grant to a probationer ; which was put on the docket.

Overture No. 17. A request from A. L. Stone for permission to address the Assembly in behalf of the American Sunday-School Union ; which was granted, and Thursday afternoon at half-past five o'clock appointed for that purpose.

And then the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday afternoon.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee of Commissions reported an additional Commissioner, who was enrolled—viz. Seth Lyon, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Bedford.

The order of the day was taken up—viz. Overture No. 14—and after debate the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday morning, May 24.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

At the request of the Rev. Henry A. Boardman, who is unwell, the Assembly resolved that the annual sermon on popery be postponed until Tuesday evening next.

On motion, Messrs. Maclean and Dorrance were appointed a committee to nominate delegates to corresponding bodies.

The order of the day was taken up, and reports were received from committees on Synodical records, when the records of the following Synods were approved—viz. New York and New Jersey ; and the records of the Synod of Albany were approved with this exception—viz. “from page 176 it appears that the Synod was opened without a sermon, whereas the Form of Government, chap. xi. sec. 5, requires that a sermon shall be preached.” The committee on the records of the Synod of Pittsburgh reported in favor of approving the records with the exception of a decision of the Synod that persons engaged in the sale of intoxicating liquors are incapable of church membership. After debate, the report was recommitted, and Messrs. Nott and Breckinridge were added to the committee.

The hour having arrived, the Assembly proceeded to the second order of the day. The annual report of the Board of Missions was presented and read by their Corresponding Secretary. Addresses were made, and the report was referred to Messrs. Chapman, Pilsbury, J. Johnston, and Lord.

On motion, nominations of persons to fill vacancies in the Board of Mis-

sions were made, and the election was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

The annual report of the Board of Trustees of the Theological Seminary at Princeton was presented, read, and referred to the Committee of Finance.

The unfinished business of this morning was resumed, and the records of the following Synods were approved—viz. Ohio, Cincinnati, Philadelphia, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, and Kentucky.

And then the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday afternoon.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

On motion, the order of the day was postponed.

The unfinished business of this morning was resumed, and the records of the following Synods were approved—viz. Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, and Wheeling.

The committee on the records of the Synod of West Tennessee reported that the book had not been put into their hands. The report was accepted, and the committee was discharged.

On motion, to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock was appointed for determining the place of meeting of the next General Assembly.

The unfinished business of yesterday was resumed—viz. Overture No. 14; and after debate the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday morning, May 25.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

On motion, the first and second orders of the day were suspended.

The Judicial Committee reported cases Nos. 6 and 7, which were disposed of as follows—viz. No. 6, the appeal of Charles Beck from a decision of the Synod of South Carolina, laid over from the last Assembly, with the following minute—viz. It appearing from the official certificate of the Stated Clerks of all the courts below that important documents in evidence before the Session which first tried the case of Beck *vs.* McMahon were not sent up to the Presbytery and Synod, it is therefore ordered that the case be sent back to the Presbytery of Charleston for a new trial, and that the Session of the church of Columbia be directed to correct their record, and to send to Presbytery an authentic copy of all the evidence and all the documents before them, which was put on the docket.

No. 7. The appeal of Mrs. Abigail Hanna against the decision of the Synod of Wheeling; with a recommendation that, as Mrs. Hanna protests against this Assembly's proceeding to the trial with such defective records of the evidence as are now in possession of this body, the case be dismissed, which was put on the docket.

The unfinished business of yesterday was resumed—viz. Overture No. 14—which was further considered until the arrival of the hour for the third order of the day; when the annual report of the Board of Education was presented and read by their Corresponding Secretary. Addresses were made, and the report was referred to Messrs. Murray, Graham, and Dickey.

And then the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday afternoon.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Mileage made a report, which was adopted, as follows :

That there has been paid to the Treasurer on account of the Commissioners' Fund the sum of \$671.41; that there have been 13,079 miles traveled by the Commissioners who claim mileage in coming to the present Assembly, which at five cents one mill per mile will make \$666.97, leaving a balance of \$4.44 in the Commissioners' Fund this day. They therefore recommend that the Trustees of the General Assembly be directed to draw an order on their Treasurer for \$666.97, and that he be directed to pay the same to the several persons named in this report in the proportion therein stated.

The committee to whom was referred the report of the committee on the bi-centenary anniversary of the Westminster Assembly made a report, which was made the order of the day for Monday morning next at 9 o'clock.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures reported Overtures Nos. 18 and 19, viz. :

No. 18. From the Synod of Indiana for the erection of a new Synod, to be composed of the Presbyteries of Logansport, Lake, and Michigan; with a recommendation that the overture be agreed to; which was put on the docket.

No. 19. A request from Mr. Herrman Bokum to address the Assembly in behalf of the American Society for Meliorating the Condition of the Jews; whereupon

Resolved, That the request be granted, and that the Assembly will hear Mr. Bokum at a quarter before one o'clock to-morrow.

The committee to whom was referred the Overture of the New York Congregational Association for a correspondence with the General Assembly made a report which was adopted, as follows, viz. :

That the body in question is a respectable body of Congregationalists, agreeing in doctrine with the stricter Congregationalists of New England and having a similar form of government. But as certain issues are now pending which are likely to eventuate in giving to said body a more fixed and uniform character, and as Mr. Andrews, the very respectable delegate from said body, is not now in the city, any further action on the question at this meeting of the Assembly seems unnecessary.

The unfinished business of this morning was resumed—viz. Overture No. 14—and after debate the previous question was ordered, and the question was put, Shall the report of the Committee of Overtures be adopted? And it was decided in the affirmative, and the Yeas and Nays, being ordered, were recorded as follows, viz. :

Resolved, That it is the judgment of this General Assembly that neither the Constitution nor the practice of our Church authorizes ruling elders to impose hands in the ordination of ministers.

YEAS—Messrs. D. P. Smith, Wadsworth, Kellogg, Nott, Prime, J. Johnston, Bailey, Wright, Lyon, Copp, Rolph, Auchincloss, Goldsmith, T. Prime, Johnstone, Murray, T. G. Allen, Street, McDowell, Maclean, Woodhull, McLean, Junkin, Hiles, Longmore, Kirkpatrick, W. Wilson, Dorrance, Fell, Platt, Lord, Tudehope, Janeway, Dunlap, Howard, Williamson, Richmond, Dickie, Johns, McNair, Laurie, English, Davie, Dunwoody, McKinley, Mower, Carrell, Crisswell, Bradbury, J. B. Boyd, Rainey, S. Wilson, Duncan, Green, Loomis, McKaig, Gordon, Young, H. N. Boyd, Knox, Glenn, Polk, Eagleson, Patterson, Sloan, Moore, Hunt, Hallock, M. Allen, Campbell, McDermot, Hoge, McCrea, A. C. Miller, Moody, Wylie, Leavenworth,

Geary, Stirling, Coe, Todd, McGeehin, Monfort, H. R. Preece, McLain, McGookin, Crawford, McKee, Ferguson, Siekles, Rankin, J. C. Brown, Bergen, Pilsbury, Fraser, Hummer, Chamberlain, Templeton, Moran, Watt, Robinson, Rand, Paine, F. Johnston, Chevalier, Alexander, Atkinson, J. C. Baker, Stuart, J. A. Smith, Graham, W. B. Miller, Leyburn, Gretter, Stratton, Watkins, Owen, John Wilson, A. Baker, Hall, M. Brown, Carter, Kerr, Gillam, Caldwell, Leland, Snowden, McWhir, Petrie, Graves, Nall, A. Smith, Chapman, W. Montgomery, Purviance, Gallent, Smylie, Bardwell—138.

NAYS—Messrs. Lowry, Breekinridge, Morton, J. Montgomery, Matthews, D. P. Preece, Cummings, Auld, James—9.

NON LIQUET—S. Steel—1.

EXCUSED FROM VOTING—Messrs. Gaines and James Wilson—2.

The Assembly then proceeded to determine the place of meeting of the next General Assembly; and it was

Resolved, That the next General Assembly be required to meet in the First Presbyterian Church in the city of Louisville, Kentucky.

The following persons were elected to fill vacancies in the Board of Missions for *four years*.

MINISTERS.

Samuel Miller, D. D.,
Wm. B. Sprague, D. D.,
Francis Herron, D. D.,
Henry R. Reed, D. D.,
Wm. M. Engles, D. D.,
Cortlandt Van Rensselaer,
Nicholas Murray,
Elisha McCurdy,
Andrew D. Patterson,
Charles C. Beatty, D. D.

LAYMEN.

Solomon Allen,
James Lenox,
William Nassau, Sr.,
Robert Stuart,
Wm. R. Thomson,
James Field.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the officers of the General Assembly whose attendance is necessary, and who shall not have been appointed Commissioners to the Assembly, shall have their traveling expenses paid out of the Contingent Fund.

And then the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday morning, May 26.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

A letter was received from the executors of Mr. William Brown of Greenville, Tennessee, respecting a legacy left by him to "the Trustees of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, to be applied to the objects and purposes that will most extensively advance the Redeemer's cause and kingdom in the world;" which was referred to the Trustees of the General Assembly to take all necessary action.

Dr. Nott from the Committee on Church Extension made a report; which was put on the docket.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave to Messrs. Wilkeson and Rankin, which was approved.

The order of the day, being Overture No. 13, was taken up—viz. the overtures and resolutions to submit to the Presbyteries the question whether the last clause of chap. 24, sec. 4, of the Confession of Faith shall be

erased? On motion, the whole subject was laid on the table. And the Yeas and Nays, being ordered, were recorded as follows, viz.:

YEAS.—Messrs. Auchincloss, Longmore, Janeway, Lord, Williamson, Dickey, Johns, Laurie, Dunwoody, McKinley, Carrell, Crisswell, Bradbury, J. B. Boyd, Hill, S. Wilson, Duncan, Green, Loomis, McKaig, Gordon, Young, Glenn, Eagleson, Sloan, Moore, Hunt, M. Allen, McDermot, Hoge, McCrea, A. C. Miller, Moody, Wylie, Geary, Stirling, Coe, Gaines, McGechin, Monfort, H. R. Price, McLain, Crawford, McKee, Sickles, J. C. Brown, Lowry, Hummer, Chamberlain, Breckinridge, Morton, Templeton, Moran, Robinson, Rand, Paine, F. Johnston, Chevalier, Alexander, J. C. Baker, Stuart, J. A. Smith, Graham, W. B. Miller, Leyburn, Gretter, Stratton, Watkins, Owens, A. Baker, Hall, M. Brown, Carter, Ker, Gillam, Caldwell, Auld, James, Snowden, Graves, W. Montgomery, Gallent, Smylie, North, Bardwell—85.

NAYS.—Messrs. D. P. Smith, Wadsworth, Nott, Prime, J. Johnston, Bailey, Wright, Lyon, Copp, Goldsmith, T. Price, Johnstone, Murray, T. G. Allen, Street, McDowell, Maclean, Woodhull, McLean, Molleson, Kirkpatrick, W. Wilson, Dorrance, Platt, Tudehope, Dickson, Dunlap, Richmond, McNair, Davie, Mower, Knox, Polk, Patterson, Hallock, Campbell, Steel, McGookin, Ferguson, Bergen, Pilsbury, Frazer J. Montgomery, Matthews, D. B. Price, Watt, Atkinson, Cummings, Leland, McWhir, Petrie, Nall, A. Smith, Chapman, Purviance, Balch—55.

On motion Overture No. 15 was made the third order of the day for this morning.

The committee to whom were referred the decisions of the Presbyteries on the overture sent down to them by the General Assembly respecting ministers demitting their office (see printed *Minutes* page 230) reported that thirty Presbyteries have decided in the affirmative, twenty-nine have given a negative decision, and from forty-two no report has been received.

The committee also reported a resolution to send down the question to the Presbyteries again, with direction to forward their decision thereon certified in writing to the next General Assembly. After debate, the resolution was rejected, and the committee was discharged.

The hour for the order of the day having arrived, the annual report of the Board of Publication was presented and read by their Corresponding Secretary. Addresses were made, and the report was referred to Messrs. Hoge, Leland, and Alexander.

The order of the day was taken up—viz. Overture No. 15—which was considered until the hour for the fourth order of the day; when the Assembly was addressed by Mr. Bokum on the condition and prospects of the Jews.

And then the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday afternoon.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

On motion, it was ordered that the names of the persons offering motions be omitted in the minutes.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave to Messrs. Kellogg, Richmond, and Rolph; which was approved.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures reported a request of the Rev. Dr. Baird for permission to address the Assembly on behalf of the Foreign Evangelical Society.

Resolved, That the request be granted, and that a quarter before six o'clock this afternoon be appointed for that purpose.

The unfinished business of this morning was taken up—viz. Overture No. 15—and after debate the report of the Committee of Bills and Overtures was unanimously adopted, as follows, viz.:

Resolved, That it is inexpedient for the Assembly to take any measures for the purpose of commencing a legal process in relation to Lane Seminary.

On motion, nominations were made to fill vacancies in the Board of Education, and the election was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning.

On motion, judicial case No. 6 was made the second order of the day for to-morrow morning.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Pittsburgh made a report which was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning at 11 o'clock.

The Rev. Dr. Baird then addressed the Assembly on the religious state and prospects of the continent of Europe.

And then the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday morning, May 27.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The order of the day was taken up, and the following persons were appointed to fill vacancies in the Board of Education:

MINISTERS.

Philip Lindsley, D. D.,
David Magie, D. D.,
George Potts, D. D.,
R. J. Breckinridge, D. D.,
Samuel D. Blythe,
W. W. Phillips, D. D.,
William Chester,
Archibald Tudehope.

LAYMEN.

Matthew L. Bevan,
Nathaniel Ewing,
Thomas McKeen,
H. W. Leavitt,
Fred. V. Krug,
Joseph Patterson,
W. S. Ridgley, M. D.,
James H. Fitzgerald,
William Hadley.

The second order of the day was taken up—viz. the report of the Judicial Committee, No. 6, and after debate the same was amended and adopted as follows, viz.:

It appearing from the official certificates of the Stated Clerks of all the courts below that important documents in evidence before the Session which first tried the case of Beck and McMahon were not sent up to the Presbytery and Synod; it is therefore ordered that this case be sent back to the Presbytery of Charleston for a new trial, and that the Session of the church of Columbia be directed to correct their record, and to send to Presbytery an authentic copy of all the evidence and all the documents before them. It is recommended, however, that the parties, if practicable, make an amicable and Christian settlement, without again submitting the same for decision to the judicatories of the Church.

It was stated to the Assembly that the Rev. Henry A. Boardman will be unable, by reason of continued indisposition, to fulfill the appointment for Tuesday next; whereupon, it was

Resolved, That the annual sermon on Romanism be omitted this year, that Mr. Boardman be appointed for that service next year, and that the Rev. Nathan L. Rice be his alternate.

A final report was received from the Committee on Psalmody, which was read and accepted. The committee was discharged, and the report was referred to Messrs. Nott, Lord, Atkinson, Leyburn, and Nall.

The committee to whom was referred the report of the Directors of the Western Theological Seminary made a report, which was adopted, as follows, viz.:

1. *Resolved*, That this General Assembly approve the report of the Directors of the Western Theological Seminary, and that it be printed in the Appendix to the *Minutes* of the General Assembly.

And inasmuch as the practice of applying for licensure before completing a full course of study has prevailed among the students in this institution, on which the Board of Directors desire this Assembly to express an opinion; therefore,

2. *Resolved*, That in the opinion of this House it is, in general, highly inexpedient for candidates for the ministry to apply for licensure at such a period of their course of study as would prevent them from finishing the three years' plan of studies adopted and approved by former Assemblies.

3. *Resolved*, That the General Assembly has been gratified to hear of the increasing prosperity and encouraging prospects of this institution.

On motion, nominations were made to fill vacancies in the Board of Directors of the Western Theological Seminary, and the election was made the second order of the day for Monday morning next.

The committee to whom was referred the annual report of the Board of Publication made a report, which was adopted, as follows, viz.:

The committee on the report of the Board of Publication have reviewed the work performed during the last year by this Board with great satisfaction. The character and the number of the works which they have issued, and the wide circulation which they have given to many theological treatises of sterling merit, fully evince the wisdom of this part of our plan of operation as a Church in order to increase the intelligence and piety of our own members and to place before the public eye in a true light that system of faith and order which we have derived from the Bible. That the Board have faithfully and successfully administered the department entrusted to them must be obvious to every intelligent and candid mind; and if they have not issued as large a number of copies of the works which they have published as could be desired, the reason is found in the imperative duty of keeping the capital with which they have been entrusted by the Church not only unimpaired, but safe from probable loss. The committee recommend to the Assembly for consideration the following resolutions:

1. *Resolved*, That the report be approved, and be committed to the Executive Committee for publication.

2. *Resolved*, That the Board be instructed to extend the circulation of their publications as widely as possible; yet it is their imperative duty to preserve the funds from loss as far as practicable, and especially to keep on hand such a capital as will enable them to do business with the greatest advantage.

3. *Resolved*, That it be earnestly recommended to every Presbytery, or at least to every Synod, to establish a depository which shall be their own property, by collecting, on such plan as they may deem best, a sufficient sum of money to fill the depository on the principle of cash purchase.

On motion, nominations were made to fill vacancies in the Board of Publication, and the election was made the third order for Monday morning.

On motion, nominations were made to fill vacancies in the Board of Trustees of the General Assembly, and the election was made the fourth order for Monday morning.

On motion, nominations were made to fill vacancies in the Board of Foreign Missions, and the election was made the fifth order for Monday morning.

The committee to whom was referred the annual report of the Board of Missions made a report, which was adopted, as follows, viz.:

1. *Resolved*, That in view of the facts disclosed in the report, the marked success which has attended the efforts of the Board during the past year, this Assembly is emphatically called on to record its gratitude to the great Head of the Church, who has thus honored his word and glorified his gospel through their instrumentality.

2. That the sustaining in the whitening fields of missionary labor of more than three hundred ministers bringing unto dying men the Bread of life, the additions to the Church of the Redeemer, through their instrumentality, of between four and five thousand souls, the organization of fifty new churches, the erection of not less than seventy houses of worship, and the catechetical Sabbath-school instruction of more than thirty thousand children and youth, —all demonstrate the importance of the Board and its utility as an agency in extending the Redeemer's kingdom throughout our beloved land. The results of the past year declare in no doubtful manner the special approbation of the Great Head of the Church.

3. That the opening before us of yet wider fields of usefulness, and the increasing cry which comes up alike from the South and the West, the East and the North, call loudly for increased effort, greater self-denial, and more earnest prayer that we may be enabled to meet the exigency of the times, the claims of God, and the calls of dying men beseeching at our hands the gospel and the ordinances of God's house.

4. That our Presbyteries be recommended to take special order on the subject of Domestic Missions, and annually to inquire particularly what the several churches are doing in this department of Christian duty and benevolence; and also specially to inquire into the destitutions within their own bounds; which said destitutions, brought before the Presbytery and spread under their order before the churches, would, it is believed, constitute the basis of the most effective appeal to the benevolence of the people in behalf of missions generally.

5. That the report of the Board of Missions be approved by the General Assembly, and with its objects and views be affectionately commended to the attention and Christian benevolence of the Synods, Presbyteries, Sessions, and members within our communion; and that it be returned to the Board for publication.

The committee on the annual report of the Board of Education made a report, which was adopted, as follows, viz.:

The committee to whom was referred the report of the Board of Education respectfully recommend that it be approved and returned to the Board for publication. They also recommend for the adoption of the Assembly the following resolutions.

Resolved (1), That the success which has crowned the labors of the Board demands the most devout and grateful acknowledgment to the God of all grace on the part of this Assembly and of the Church at large.

Resolved (2), That the Assembly have received with peculiar gratification the evidence of so high a character on the part of their candidates and beneficiaries, and affectionately and cordially recommend them to the confidence, the prayers, and the support of the churches.

Resolved (3), That the Assembly commend especially that feature of the plan of education which places the great responsibility in the selection, training, and supervision of the candidates upon the Presbyteries; and that it be recommended to those Presbyteries which co-operate with the Board not only to adopt this measure, but to carry it into operation with the utmost practicable vigilance and care, both in the selection of candidates and their prompt dismissal if they should seem to be unworthy of continued support.

Resolved (4), That in the deliberate and solemn judgment of this Assembly

the cause of education is fundamental to the prosperity and progress of our Church if she would take that high and noble pre-eminence which is within her reach in the great work of the world's regeneration; and that it be warmly recommended to the churches for a far more generous sympathy and support.

Resolved (5), That it be recommended, on the one hand, to the Board to encourage their candidates to engage in active means of doing good during the progress of their studies, and especially during periods of vacation from study, and on the other hand to pastors who may have it in their power to take them under their care at such times, and to direct their labors so as to cultivate a practical knowledge of the subordinate duties of the pastoral office, and a personal acquaintance with men and manners along with intellectual and theoretical education.

Whereas, the Presbyterian Church is now fully organized with its different Boards to raise up and educate her ministry, and to sustain them amid the wastes of our own and foreign countries, it is of essential importance that a systematic plan of benevolence be devised which will secure the annual presentation of the claims of all our Boards to all our Church members; and it is hereby earnestly recommended to the several Presbyteries and to all our ministers and churches to take action for the attainment of this great object.

The order of the day was taken up—viz. the report of the committee on the records of the Synod of Pittsburgh; and after debate the report was rejected; and on motion, it was

Resolved, That the records be approved, except so far as they seem to establish a general rule in regard to the use and sale of ardent spirits as beverage, which use and sale are generally to be decidedly disapproved, but each case must be decided in view of all the attendant circumstances that go to modify and give character to the same.

The committee on the annual report of the Board of Foreign Missions made a report in part, which was amended and adopted as follows, viz.:

The committee to whom was referred the report of the Board of Foreign Missions present their report in two distinct parts: First, the operations of the Board; second, the method of obtaining funds.

OF THE OPERATIONS OF THE BOARD.

The committee submit to the Assembly, on this branch of the subject, the following propositions for their approbation:

The General Assembly recognize, with a solemn sense of obligation, with unfeigned gratitude, and with mingled emotions of humiliation and hope, the great work of giving the gospel to the world committed to our Church in part by her exalted Head, and conducted by the Board of Foreign Missions, and they acknowledge that they are bound to persevere and increase in this work of faith and labor of love. Approving the management of this department of Christian effort as exhibited in the report, and hoping an enlargement of exertion and an increase of success will be recorded during the current year, they adopt the following resolutions:

1. *Resolved*, That the annual report of the Board of Foreign Missions be approved, and referred to the Executive Committee for publication.

2. *Resolved*, That it is exceedingly important to enlarge and strengthen the Missions of our Church at almost every point both with additional laborers and increased means of usefulness, and, if the door shall be open, to establish other Missions during the present year.

3. *Resolved*, That Missions among the Indian tribes on our Western border have a peculiar claim on the Church in our land.

In the view of this Assembly no pastor discharges his whole duty who

neglects to enlighten and impress his people in regard to their duty on the great subject of Foreign Missions. Therefore

4. *Resolved*, That much good has been found by experience to result from the circulation of the missionary papers of the Board among the churches. It is therefore urged upon pastors and benevolent individuals to diffuse as widely as possible among our churches these papers, and especially the *Foreign Missionary Chronicle*, the price of which is so low as to bring it within the reach of all.

5. *Resolved*, That particular attention ought to be given to the training of our children and youth in the Sabbath-schools and churches in the knowledge and love of the Missionary cause.

And whereas the great empire of China is now in the providence of God open to the Christian missionary, and the wide-spread moral desolations of that ancient people present strong and pressing claims for the Bread of life; and whereas qualified men are prepared to go on this errand of love and mercy, and are only waiting till the necessary means be afforded;

6. *Resolved*, That the claims of China be and they hereby are presented to the prayers and the liberal support of the churches; and without deciding in favor of a special effort, the General Assembly do hereby authorize the Board to receive donations from individuals and from churches in aid of this mission; but they would remind the churches that the wants of China, great and pressing as they are, ought not to be supplied at the expense of existing missions, and that these can only be sustained, and at the same time the mission to China carried forward, by a support increased and enlarged above that of previous years.

And then the Assembly adjourned until Monday morning, at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday morning, May 29.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave to Messrs. J. A. Smith, Carter, Auchincloss, Hallock, McDermot, Molleson; and to Mr. Hunt, after this morning's session; which was approved.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 20, from Alexander Smith, two questions: 1st. Is it the opinion of the General Assembly that it is implied in sec. 7, chap. x. of the Form of Government that Presbyterian business cannot be transacted without the presence of one ruling elder at least? 2. Should every congregation be considered as vacant which is not united to any minister in the pastoral relation, and if it should, is not every such congregation entitled to be represented by a ruling elder in Presbytery? With the answers proposed to be given thereto. Put on the docket.

The committee to whom was referred the report of the Committee on Psalmody made a report, which was put on the docket.

The orders of the day were taken up, and the following persons were elected to fill vacancies:

In the Board of Directors of the Western Theological Seminary.

MINISTERS.

D. McConaughy, D. D.,
A. O. Patterson,
Robert Dunlap;
Alan D. Campbell, D. D.,
Noah Gillet,
James Culbertson,
Absalom McCready.

LAYMEN.

Alexander Laughlin,
F. G. Bailey,
Thomas Kiddoo.

In the Board of Foreign Missions:

MINISTERS.

Willis Lord,
 Cor. C. Cuyler, D. D.,
 S. S. Davis,
 John M. Dickey,
 W. L. Breckinridge,
 David Elliott, D. D.,
 S. L. Graham, D. D.,
 Ashbel Green, D. D.,
 Jacob Green,
 James Hoge, D. D.,
 D. V. McLean,
 Reuben Smith,
 James M. McDonald,
 Benj. H. Rice, D. D.,
 R. Davidson, D. D.

LAYMEN.

Robert Areher, M. D.,
 Matt. L. Bevan,
 John J. Bryant,
 James N. Dickson,
 Joseph P. Engles,
 Nathaniel Ewing,
 James H. Fitzgerald,
 Wm. Harris, M. D.,
 Alexander Henry,
 Robert Jaffray,
 John Kerr, M. D.,
 James Lenox,
 W. D. C. Olyphant,
 Robert Carter,
 John G. Gilchrist.

In the Board of Publication:

A. Alexander, D. D.,
 J. McDowell, D. D.,
 C. C. Cuyler, D. D.,
 W. S. Plumer, D. D.,
 W. D. Snodgrass, D. D.,
 Reuben Smith,
 N. H. Harding, D. D.,
 C. C. Jones,
 C. C. Beatty, D. D.,
 J. N. Campbell, D. D.,
 James Laurie, D. D.,
 R. J. Breckinridge, D. D.,
 W. Loughridge.

H. Auchineloss,
 Solomon Allen,
 A. Bayless,
 Harmar Denny,
 Nath. Ewing,
 J. Dunlap,
 Wm. S. Martien,
 H. McKeen,
 S. Franklin,
 Joseph P. Engles,
 G. Vail,
 J. Jones,
 D. C. Campbell.

On motion, the election of a Trustee of the General Assembly in the place of Mr. John Stille was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning.

The report of the committee on the report of the committee on the Westminster bi-centenary was considered, and adopted, as follows, viz.:

The committee to whom was referred the report on the observance of the bi-centenary of the Westminster Assembly, having considered the subject, recommend it to the favorable consideration of the Assembly.

A correct knowledge of the character of that Assembly, of the purpose for which they were convened, of the difficulties of their position, of the arduous nature of their task, and of the results of their labors shows the extent of the benefits which they have conferred on the interests of truth and freedom; and our Church, in common with other churches which have been formed on the same model, must feel that the occurrence of the two hundredth anniversary of their meeting is a deeply interesting period in the lapse of time, and may prove profitable by its appropriate commemoration. It is therefore recommended to the Assembly to adopt, with some modification, the propositions reported by the committee of the last General Assembly, as follows:

Resolved, That it is highly important that the venerable standards prepared by the Westminster Assembly, as substantially adopted by the Presbyterian

Church, shall be more carefully studied, more perfectly understood, and more faithfully observed by all the members and office-bearers of this Church, and that the children of the Church be early and faithfully taught to understand and observe them.

2. *Resolved*, That an accurate acquaintance with the history of the past trials, persecutions, and faithfulness of the true Church, and especially of our own branch of it, should be diligently sought, particularly by those who are office-bearers in the Church; and as one method of accomplishing this object it is recommended that the 1st of July, when convenient to do so, and when not convenient, on such other day during the current year as may be deemed expedient, be observed as a season specially devoted to the general instruction of our people, by the ministers, in the great facts connected with this subject.

3. *Resolved*, That it is the ardent desire of this Church to maintain friendly and fraternal relations with all evangelical churches, and especially to be in more close and perfect union with those who adopt and maintain our own formularies or others of kindred spirit and form.

4. *Resolved*, That the fourth proposition of the committee of the last Assembly, respecting the preparation of a commentary on the Holy Scriptures, be referred to the Board of Publication, with instructions to report thereon to the next Assembly.

And whereas a portion of our brethren of the Church of Scotland are now contending for those great principles which we and they have received from a common source,

5. *Resolved*, That this General Assembly express deep and cordial sympathy with them in the trials they now endure and the sufferings they may yet be called to bear, and earnestly pray that they may come forth from this "great fight of afflictions" in the full enjoyment of that "liberty with which Christ makes his people free," and that, in the mean time, they may, in all their difficulties and troubles, be favored with the guidance and consolations of the Holy Spirit of God.

Overture No. 18 was taken up, and adopted, as follows, viz.:

Resolved, That the prayer of the Synod of Indiana be granted, and that a new Synod be erected, to consist of the Presbyteries of Logansport, Lake, and Michigan, to be known by the name of the Synod of Northern Indiana; that the present boundaries of said Presbyteries be the boundary of the Synod; that it hold its first meeting at Fort Wayne on the second Thursday of October next, at 12 o'clock, M.; that it be opened with a sermon by Rev. John Wright, or in case of his absence by the senior minister present; that he preside till a Moderator is chosen; and that said Synod afterward meet on its own adjournment.

The report of the Judicial Committee in the case of Abigail Hanna was taken up, and after debate it was laid on the table; and then, on motion, the following minute was adopted, viz.:

It appearing that the record in the case of Abigail Hanna against the Synod of Wheeling is incomplete, although the Assembly are informed that a complete record was sent by the Synod, it is ordered that the courts below send up a complete record to the next General Assembly.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 21—viz. the request of Mr. Bingham, missionary to the Sandwich Islands, for permission to address the Assembly. The request was granted, and a quarter before six o'clock this afternoon was appointed for that purpose.

The Rev. Parsons Cooke, delegate from the General Association of Massachusetts, took leave of the Assembly.

And then the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday afternoon.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures reported Overtures No. 22 and 23—viz. No. 22, for the erection of a new Presbytery to be called the Presbytery of Luzerne, which was put on the docket.

No. 23, which was adopted as follows, viz.:

For the purpose of facilitating the settlement and support of pastors, and to guard more effectually against the temptation or almost necessity, as in some cases seems to exist, for ministers to involve themselves, to the injury of their usefulness, in procuring accommodation for themselves and families,

1. *Resolved*, That it be earnestly recommended to our churches, wherever it is expedient and practicable, to provide suitable parsonages for the accommodation of their pastors.

2. *Resolved*, That great care be taken to have these parsonages so guarded by legal arrangements as most effectually to prevent controversy, and secure their perpetual enjoyment by the churches providing them, for the continued support of the gospel through coming generations.

3. *Resolved*, That it be recommended to pastors and Sessions to take such order on this subject as in their wisdom shall appear expedient.

On motion, Overture No. 13, on the alteration of the Constitution respecting marriage, was taken up; and after debate it was moved to lay the whole subject on the table, which was carried; and the Yeas and Nays, being ordered, were recorded as follows:

YEAS.—Messrs. Junkin, Hiles, Longmore, James Wilson, Lord, Dickson, Janeway, Algeo, Williamson, Laurie, McKinley, Carrell, Criswell, J. B. Boyd, Rainey, S. Wilson, Duncan, Loomis, Glenn, Sloan, Moore, M. Allen, Campbell, Hoge, McCrear, A. C. Miller, Wylie, Geary, Stirling, Coe, Todd, Gaines, McGeehin, Monfort, Crawford, McKee, Sickles, J. C. Brown, Hummer, Chamberlain, Breekinridge, Morton, Templeton, Moran, Robinson, Rand, Paine, F. Johnston, Chevalier, Alexander, J. C. Baker, Stuart, W. B. Miller, Leyburn, Gretter, Stratton, Watkins, Owen, A. Baker, Hall, Kerr, Auld, James, Snowden, W. Montgomery, Smylie, Bardwell, Baleh—63.

NAYS.—Messrs. D. P. Smith, Wadsworth, Nott, Prime, J. Johnston, Wright, Lyon, Copp, Goldsmith, T. Price, Johnstone, Murray, T. G. Allen, Street, McDowell, Maclean, Woodhull, McLean, Kirkpatrick, W. Wilson, Dorrance, Tudehope, Dunlap, Howard, Dickey, Johns, McNair, Davie, Dunwoody, Mower, Bradbury, Green, McKaig, Young, H. N. Boyd, Knox, Polk, Eagleson, Patterson, Moody, Steel, McGookin, Bergen, Pilsbury, Fraser, Lowry, Matthews, D. B. Price, Watt, Atkinson, John Wilson, M. Brown, Cummings, Gillam, Caldwell, Leland, Petrie, Graves, Nall, A. Smith, Chapman, Purviance, Gallent—63.

NON LIQUET.—Platt—1.

The Assembly was addressed by Rev. H. Bingham.

And then the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday morning, May 30.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Mr. Hill requested that his name be recorded as in favor of laying Overture No. 13 on the table yesterday afternoon, which was granted.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures reported Overtures Nos. 24 and 25, which were disposed of as follows, viz.:

No. 24. A resolution which was adopted as follows, viz.:

Resolved, That the Board of Foreign Missions be instructed to use such efforts as the state of their funds may allow to sustain and extend the preaching of the gospel in Texas.

No. 25. An Overture from several members of the Assembly for the repeal of the resolution of the Assembly of 1837 making it obligatory on Presbyteries to examine *all* applicants for admission into those bodies; with a resolution to that effect, which was laid on the table.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave to Messrs. Fell and D. P. Smith; which was approved.

The order of the day was taken up, and Hon. Joel Jones was elected a Trustee of the General Assembly, in the place of Mr. John Stille, deceased.

The Committee on Finance made a report, which was read, and put on the docket.

On motion, the report of the Committee on Church Extension was taken up, and after debate it was

Resolved, That the whole subject of Church extension, together with the overture on that subject now before the Assembly, be committed to a Committee of five to consider the whole subject and to report to the next General Assembly.

Messrs. James Hoge, Charles Hodge, W. S. Plumer, James N. Dickson, and Matthew L. Bevan were appointed the above committee.

The report of the committee to whom was referred the report of the standing Committee on Psalmody, was taken up, amended, and adopted as follows, viz.:

That the said committee appear to have discharged the duty assigned them with zeal and ability, and that they are entitled to the thanks of this Assembly. Therefore,

1. *Resolved*, That the Book of Psalms and Hymns reported by the Committee of Psalmody be approved and authorized to be used in all our churches.

2. That such portion of our standards be appended to such portion of any future edition of the Book of Psalmody as shall be deemed expedient by the Board of Publication.

3. That the whole, or such portion of the common translation of the Psalms without note or comment accompanied, as far as may be, by appropriate music, be appended to such portion of one edition of said Book of Psalmody as may appear expedient to the Board of Publication.

4. That the Board of Publication be authorized to pay out of the proceeds of the sale of said Book of Psalmody the necessary expenses incurred in preparing the same for publication.

5. That the report of the Committee on Psalmody be printed in the Appendix to the *Minutes* of this Assembly.

6. That it be enjoined on the Board of Publication to keep on hand a sufficient number of the Book of Psalms and Hymns, approved by the General Assembly of 1830, to supply the churches that have introduced and prefer it.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 26—viz. the question whether any other person than the Moderator of the General Assembly, immediately preceding, or a Commissioner of the General Assembly about to convene, can preach and preside at the opening of the sessions of the General Assembly. On which subject the committee submitted the following preamble and resolutions which were adopted, viz.:

“Whereas there exists a difference of opinion as to the proper person to open the sessions of the General Assembly in case the Moderator of the Assembly immediately preceding be not present; therefore,

Resolved, That it is the deliberate judgment of this General Assembly, that by the constitution of our Church no person is authorized to open the Session of the General Assembly or to preside at the opening of said sessions except the Moderator of the Assembly immediately preceding, or, in case of his absence, a Commissioner to the General Assembly selected for the purpose by the other Commissioners met at the time and place fixed for said meeting.

The committee on the annual report of the Board of Foreign Missions made a further report; which was read and put on the docket.

The committee on Foreign Correspondence made a report, which was put on the docket.

And then the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday afternoon.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

Overture No. 22 was taken up, and after debate it was adopted as follows, viz.:

1st. *Resolved*, That the Rev. John Dorrance and the Rev. E. H. Snowden, of the Presbytery of Susquehanna, together with the churches of Wilkesbarre, Kingston, Hanover, and Lackawanna, be detached from said Presbytery, and that the Rev. Richard Webster and the Rev. Daniel Gaston, together with the churches of Mauch Chunk, Beaver Meadow, Conyngham, and Summit Hill, be detached from the Presbytery of Newton, and that they be erected into a Presbytery to be called the Presbytery of Luzerne; and that the church of Berwick and Brier Creek, now under the care of the Presbytery of Northumberland, and the church of Port Carbon, under the care of the 2d Presbytery of Philadelphia, be attached to the Presbytery of Luzerne.

2d. *Resolved*, That all Presbyterian churches which may hereafter be formed in the counties of Luzerne, Schuylkill, Carbon, and the township of Brier Creek, in the county of Columbia, until otherwise ordered by competent authority, shall be formed under the direction of the Presbytery of Luzerne, and continued under the care of said Presbytery.

3d. *Resolved*, That the first meeting of the Presbytery of Luzerne be held at Wilkesbarre on the third Tuesday of September, at seven o'clock, P. M., and that the said meeting be opened with a sermon by the Rev. Richard Webster, or, in case of his absence, by the oldest minister present.

4th. *Resolved*, That after the organization of the Luzerne Presbytery, Mr. Charles Evans, now a licentiate under the care of the Presbytery of Newton, be under the care of the Presbytery of Luzerne, and that said Presbytery be connected with the Synod of New Jersey.

The committee to nominate delegates to corresponding bodies made a report, and the following were appointed, viz.:

To the General Conference of Maine.—Rev. Henry A. Boardman, principal, and Rev. Joseph H. Jones, alternate.

To the General Associations of Connecticut and Massachusetts.—Rev. Gardiner Spring, D. D., and Rev. Daniel V. McLean, principals; and Rev. John M. Krebs, D. D., alternate to Dr. Spring, and Rev. Eli F. Cooley to Mr. McLean.

To the General Convention of Vermont.—Rev. Joseph A. Copp, principal, and Rev. Hugh N. Wilson, alternate.

To the General Association of New Hampshire.—Rev. John C. Lord, D. D., principal, and Rev. Isaac W. Platt, alternate.

To the Evangelical Consociation of Rhode Island.—Rev. Robert Nall, principal, and Rev. Thomas L. Janeway, alternate.

To the General Synod of Reformed Protestant Dutch Church.—Rev. Nicholas Murray, principal, and Rev. David Magie, D. D., alternate.

To the General Synod of the German Reformed Church.—Rev. William Atkinson, principal, and Rev. John T. M. Davie, alternate.

Overture No. 20 was taken up, and after debate the resolutions submitted by the Committee of Bills and Overtures were adopted, as follows, viz.:

1. *Resolved*, That any three ministers of a Presbytery, being regularly convened, are a quorum competent to the transaction of all business, agreeably to the provision contained in the Form of Government, Chap. x. sec. 7.

On which resolution, the Yeas and Nays, being ordered, were reported as follows, viz.:

YEAS.—Messrs. Nott, Prime, J. Johnston, Wright, Goldsmith, T. Priece, Johnstone, Murray, T. G. Allen, Street, McDowell, Maelean, Dorrance, Platt, Tudehope, Dickson, Dunlap, Howard, Diekey, Johns, McNair, English, Davie, Dunwoody, McKinley, Mower, Carrell, Criswell, Bradbury, Hill, Samuel Wilson, Duncan, McKaig, Young, H. N. Boyd, Knox, Polk, Eagleson, Patterson, M. Allen, Hoge, Wylie, Geary, Monfort, McGookin, McKee, Siekles, J. C. Brown, Pilsbury, Frazer, Hummer, Chamberlain, Templeton, J. Montgomery, Watt, Robinson, Rand, F. Johnston, Alexander, Atkinson, W. B. Miller, Leyburn, Greter, Stratton, Watkins, Owen, John Wilson, A. Baker, Hall, M. Brown, Caldwell, Leland, McWhir, Petrie, Graves, Nall, Chapman, W. Montgomery, Purviance, Gallent, Smylie, Bardwell, Balch—83.

NAYS.—Messrs. McLean, Junkin, Hiles, Longmore, W. Wilson, Janeway, J. B. Boyd, Rainey, Loomis, Glenn, Sloan, Moore, Campbell, Stirling, Steel, Coe, Todd, McGeehin, McLain, Crawford, Lowry, Breekinridge, Morton, Moran, Matthews, D. B. Priece, Paine, Chevalier, Stuart, Kerr, Cummings, Auld, James, Snowden, A. Smith—35.

2. *Resolved*, That, from a comparison of sections 3 and 5 of chap. x. Form of Government, it is evident that every congregation without a pastor is to be regarded as a vacant congregation, and consequently, if "regularly organized," is entitled to be represented by a ruling elder in a Presbytery.

On motion, Overture No. 13 was taken up, and it was

Resolved, That the Overture proposing to alter the twenty-fourth chapter, section four, of the Confession of Faith, respecting unlawful marriages, be referred to a committee of five, with instruction to inquire whether any alteration is necessary, and if so to report an amended form of that section to the next General Assembly, in order to be submitted to the Presbyteries for their decision.

Resolved, That the aforesaid committee be appointed by ballot at ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

The following preamble and resolution were introduced, viz.:

Whereas the Rev. Archibald McQueen was suspended by the Presbytery of Fayetteville from the exercise of his ministry and from the communion of the church for marrying the sister of his deceased wife; and whereas the General Assembly of the last year affirmed the decision of the Presbytery of Fayetteville; and whereas, in the judgment of this General Assembly, the censure which has been inflicted and hitherto submitted to ought to be removed; therefore

Resolved, That the Presbytery of Fayetteville be directed to remove the aforesaid sentence of suspension, and to restore the Rev. Archibald McQueen to the communion of the church and the exercise of his ministry.

And after debate the Assembly adjourned until this evening at 8 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday evening.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The unfinished business of this afternoon was resumed—viz. The minute in relation to the Rev. Archibald McQueen; and after debate, the previous question was demanded, and the resolution was lost.

And then the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday morning, May 31.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

On motion, the report of the committee appointed by the Assembly of 1841, on a Directory for adult baptism, was taken up, and indefinitely postponed.

On motion, Overture No. 16, on licenses for a limited time, was taken up, and after debate, the whole subject was indefinitely postponed.

The Committee of Commissions reported that the Rev. Albert Helffenstein, delegate from the General Synod of the German Reformed Church, is present, who was enrolled.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overtures Nos. 27 and 28, which were disposed of as follows: No. 27, for enjoining the Presbyteries to take order for a more efficient organization of the churches in aid of the Boards of Education and Missions; which was put on the docket.

No. 28 was adopted, as follows:

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Board of Publication, if funds can be provided for the purpose, to print an edition of all the minutes of the General Assembly from the origin of the body (including a summary of statistical tables), to which shall be appended a copious index, which shall serve as a digest of the acts of the Assembly.

Resolved, That for the purpose both of putting this book into general circulation and of securing a sufficient sale to remunerate the Board of Publication, it be recommended to all the Presbyteries to take such order as will at least put one copy of the book into the hands of each of their ministers and licentiates, and, if possible, also of each of the church Sessions.

The hour having arrived, the order of the day was taken up, and the resolution of yesterday to elect the committee on the marriage question by ballot was reconsidered and laid on the table. And then, on motion, the following persons were nominated and unanimously appointed the committee—viz. James Hoge, D. D., Charles Hodge, D. D., Gardiner Spring, D. D., Aaron W. Leland, D. D., and Rev. Nathan L. Rice.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence reported two letters from the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, also the draft of a letter in reply; which were read. The draft was approved, and it was ordered that these documents be printed in the Appendix, and a copy of the letter to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, signed by the Moderator and Clerks of this House, be transmitted to that body.

The report of the Committee on Finance was taken up, amended, and adopted; and it was ordered that it be printed in the Appendix to the *Minutes*.

The final report of the committee on the annual report of the Board of Foreign Missions was taken up; and it was

Resolved, That this report, "*on the method of obtaining funds*," be referred to a committee of five, to report thereon to the next General Assembly. Messrs. Hoge, Murray, Janeway, Green, and Atkinson were appointed the aforesaid committee.

Overture No. 27 was taken up, and after debate it was adopted, as follows, viz.:

Resolved, That it be enjoined on the Presbyteries to take such order for the organization of the churches under their care; for a systematic effort to aid in the education of indigent candidates for the ministry; and in the efforts making to spread the glorious gospel of Christ throughout our own country and the world, as will secure the presenting these objects to every member of the Church at least once a year, and that the Presbyteries require the Session of each church to report in writing their diligence herein at every spring meeting.

Messrs. Breckinridge and Junkin presented protests in behalf of themselves and others against the decision of the Assembly yesterday, that three ministers of a Presbytery, being regularly convened, are a competent quorum; which were received, and referred to Messrs. Maclean, Green, and Lord to be answered.

The complaint of John M. Dickey against the Synod of Philadelphia was taken up; when it appeared to be a petition to the Assembly in reference to the division of the Presbytery of Newcastle; and the same was referred to the Synod of Philadelphia.

Messrs. Balch and J. C. Baker requested that their names might be entered as in favor of the resolutions of the Committee on Bills and Overtures on Overture No. 20; which was granted.

The Committee on the Narrative made a report, which was amended, adopted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the *Minutes*.

And then the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday afternoon.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

On motion, the complaint of D. V. Smock and others against the Synod of Indiana was taken up. The documents were read; and after debate it was

Resolved, That the complaint be sustained *pro forma*, and that the Presbytery of Indianapolis be directed to dismiss Mr. McKinney to the Presbytery of Oxford if he desires it.

It was moved to take up Overture No. 25. The motion was lost.

On motion, Overture No. 8 was taken up—viz. from the Presbytery of Tombeckbee, two questions: 1st. Is it orderly that a member of one Presbytery moderate a church Session of another Presbytery? which question the Assembly answered in the affirmative.

2. Is the ordination of a minister *valid* which has been procured by forgery and unwarrantable means? To which the Assembly reply that confining the answer of the Assembly to the case in question as verbally explained, this question is answered in the affirmative; but that the Presbytery should in such a case proceed immediately to depose him.

A letter was received from the Presbytery of Allahabad containing an account of their proceedings; which was read, and it was ordered that the same be printed in the Appendix to the *Minutes*.

The committee appointed to answer the protests of Messrs. Junkin and Breckinridge made a report, which was adopted, and it was ordered that the protests and the answer thereto be inserted in the minutes, viz.:

PROTEST.

The undersigned, members of the General Assembly, desire to record their respectful but solemn protest against the decision of said Assembly in answer

to the first inquiry contained in Overture No. 20, by which it was declared "that any three ministers, being duly convened, are a quorum competent to the transaction of all business, agreeably to the provision in the Form of government, chap. x. sec. vii.," for the following reasons, viz.:

I. BECAUSE we believe said decision to be in direct opposition both to the *letter* and the *spirit* of our Form of Government. In chap. x. sec. ii. a Presbytery is said "to consist of all the ministers and one ruling elder from each congregation within a certain district." Here the general principle is laid down that a Presbytery *consists* of ministers and ruling elders. Ministers and elders are declared to be *constituent elements* of a Presbytery. Now, can a Presbytery be constituted out of *one* of these elements when the *book* declares that it must be composed of *both*? Again, in sec. vii. of the same chapter, in defining a *quorum*, it is declared that "three ministers, and as many elders as may be present, belonging to the Presbytery, being met at the time and place appointed, shall be a quorum competent to proceed to business." Here, if language means anything, the presence of ruling elders, or at least one ruling elder, is again recognized as *indispensable*. Let it be noticed that the very object of the section is to *define a quorum*—i. e. to point out the *smallest number* of the constituent elements of a Presbytery that can constitute a quorum. Now, if the framers of our book meant to declare that ministers, without any representation of God's people, could constitute a quorum, why not say so? Why mention ruling elders at all? The very fact that elders are *mentioned* in this definition of a quorum clearly determines that the thing defined cannot exist without them.

Again, in the same chapter, and at sec. x., in which provision is made for called meetings of Presbytery, it is expressly provided—

1. That two ruling elders and two ministers must sign a request before the Moderator is bound to call a *pro re nata* meeting, and that the elders must be of different congregations. 2. That no such meeting can be lawfully held unless in due time, previous to the meeting, a circular letter, specifying the particular business of the intended meeting, shall have been sent to each minister and to the Session of each vacant church. Can any man fail to see in these provisions the clear recognition of the eldership as a constituent and *essential* element of a Presbytery? and is it not perfectly manifest that the framers of the Constitution designed hereby carefully to guard against any assumption of power by the ministry to the neglect or exclusion of the eldership? These parts of our book, to our minds, conclusively demonstrate that its framers designed to forbid any transaction of the people's business when *none* of the people's representatives were present.

We protest against this decision—

II. Because we solemnly believe that it is in direct hostility to principles of Presbyterianism, which we deem *essential* to its very *nature* and *existence*; for

1st. It is an essential element of Presbyterianism that God's people govern themselves and manage their ecclesiastical affairs, in accordance with his word and by their own chosen and ordained representatives. Our book declares (chap. v.) that "ruling elders are properly the representatives of the people, chosen by them for the purpose of exercising government and discipline in connection with the pastors or ministers." This, we say, is an *essential element* of Presbyterianism: destroy *this*, and the entire system perishes. This is the *element* that distinctly separates it from prelacy on the one hand and congregationalism on the other. Admit the principle that the ministry may, without the presence of any representative of God's people, transact the *business of the people*, and you lay our glorious system of repre-

sentative republicanism in ruins; and over those ruins you may easily pave a highway to prelacy and popery. But,

2d. We ask what is the *object* of every meeting of a Presbytery? *Not* to dispense ordinances, not to perform any of those acts which exclusively belong to the ministerial office; but the sole object of a meeting of Presbytery is to attend to the legislative and judicial *business* of the Church—to the *business* of God's people. Every act that a Presbytery may perform is of such a character as affects the interests of the members of the body of Christ, and they are entitled to be represented. Was it not wise, then, in the framers of our book to provide that the people's business should never be done unless the people had at least one representative in the Presbytery to see to their interests and to watch those encroachments of the ministerial order which *had* resulted in one papacy and *might* lead to another? We protest—

III. Because such a decision was uncalled for by any demand either of a right or expediency. Because a grave vote of the kind passed by this Assembly must appear to the Church and the world as a *hint*, at least to the eldership, that their presence in Presbytery is *not necessary*, *may be dispensed with*, and *might be undesirable*, and because the history of our Church, especially recent history, clearly proves that in her pious and intelligent eldership she has a powerful and stable instrumentality which her Head has employed and may again employ for her purification and defence; and we are unwilling that anything should be done to impair that instrumentality. We protest—

IV. And lastly. Because the evident impatience of the House discouraged debate, and so hastened the vote that some of us were prevented from expressing our views as we desired to do, and because the chief reasons urged in favor of the decision were drawn from extreme and supposed cases, not likely to occur in the ordinary circumstances of the Church; and we feel bound to deprecate the idea that *ordinary* legislation shall be controlled by extraordinary exigencies. The ordinary meetings of our Presbyteries are, in a vast majority of cases, held in the bosom of some Christian congregation where there are elders; and we do deem it highly injurious to the character of our eldership to suppose it possible that they would so neglect their ordination vows as with any great frequency to absent themselves from our church courts; nor would we suppose it *possible* they would *ever* willingly do it if the doctrine prevailed that a quorum could not be formed without them.

A. H. KERR,
P. J. AULD,
D. X. JUNKIN,
W. E. JAMES,
LUKE LOOMIS,
JAMES WILSON,
HENRY H. PAINE,
JOHN D. MATTHEW,
SAMUEL STEEL,
WM. WILSON,

JAMES SLOAN,
JOHN STERLING,
RUSSEL MOORE,
DAVID H. CUMMINS,
ROBERT RAINEY,
DANIEL B. PRICE,
G. T. SNOWDEN,
JAMES GILLAM,
ALEXANDER SMITH,
J. MONTGOMERY.

The undersigned in recording their protest against the vote of the General Assembly which declares three ministers regularly convened, without the presence of ruling elders, to constitute a Presbytery competent to do business, desire also to express the opinion that this vote appropriately and of necessity follows a previous decision of this body—to wit, that which declares that the Constitution of the Church does not authorize ruling elders to unite by imposition of hands in the ordination of ministers. The undersigned

wish, therefore, to record their protest against the action of the General Assembly in both these particulars, striking, as they believe it does, at fundamental principles of the Constitution.

W. L. BRECKINRIDGE,
J. MONTGOMERY.

ANSWER TO THE ABOVE PROTEST.

The committee appointed to answer the protest against the decision of the General Assembly in relation to the first inquiry contained in Overture No. 20, etc., respectfully submit the following reply :

The General Assembly entertains the highest respect for the office of ruling elder, and would deprecate the adoption of any measures which would serve to abridge the rights of ruling elders or diminish their usefulness ; and further, the General Assembly regard it not only as the right and privilege, but also the duty of ruling elders to be present at all meetings of our church courts, whenever commissioned by their respective Sessions to attend them, and would in all proper modes urge such attendance. It is with pleasure the General Assembly witnesses the increasing interest taken by the ruling elders of our Church in the meetings of our judicatories ; and they do not believe that the act complained of has the least tendency to diminish that interest, inasmuch as it is in strict accordance with the provisions of our Form of Government respecting the rights of the churches represented in Presbytery, which declares that "every congregation which has a stated pastor has a right to be represented by one elder ;" and also that "every vacant congregation which is regularly organized shall be entitled to be represented by a ruling elder in Presbytery." (See Chapter x. sections 3d and 5th.) Right and privilege are surely to be distinguished from compulsion.

The congregations have the right and the privilege to send delegates to every meeting of Presbytery, but they are not required to do so, nor is the presence of an elder absolutely necessary for the formation of a quorum for the transaction of business. It is readily admitted that elders when delegated for the purpose of attending any meeting of Presbytery are constituent members of that body for such particular meetings. But are not ministers also constituent parts of every Presbytery ? Now, the whole matter involved in the answer of the General Assembly, against which the protests are entered, is simply this : How many of these constituent members must be present in order that there may be a quorum competent for the transaction of business ?

The words of the rule respecting a quorum are as follows : "Any three ministers, and as many elders as may be present, belonging to the Presbytery, being met at the time and place appointed, shall form a quorum competent to proceed to business."

The brethren who protest against the decision of the General Assembly maintain that the introduction into this clause of the words "and as many elders as may be present, belonging to the Presbytery," shows that the presence of one or more elders is absolutely necessary for a quorum. Whereas the General Assembly conceives that they imply nothing more than this—that if there be any ruling elders present, be they one, two or more, and should they even out-number the ministers, they are all entitled to take their seats as members of Presbytery, and if there also be present three ministers they are competent to proceed to business.

And in this respect the rule is different from the rule relative to a quorum of the General Assembly, which requires that one-half of the Commissioners requisite to a quorum shall be ministers, and all of them may be ministers, but in the case of a Presbytery the number of elders may exceed the

number of ministers, and yet if there be only three ministers present there is a quorum. Should there be any number of elders present, however large that number, and yet should there be less than three ministers, there can be no business transacted.

That which is essential to the existence of a quorum is the presence of three ministers, and should there be no elder, one elder, two elders, or a dozen elders present, the business may proceed; and we do not see how all these different cases could readily be expressed with more conciseness than by saying, in the words of our Form of Government, as many elders as may be present belonging to the Presbytery.

If no elder be present, and yet there be present three ministers, there is a regular quorum; and if there be but three ministers and a dozen elders, there is a quorum, and they can determine all questions brought before Presbytery; and the elders, being in the majority, may in case they differ from the ministers overrule the ministers, and even require them to do acts to which the elders themselves are incompetent.

In confirmation of the correctness of the decision made by the General Assembly it may be added that a Presbytery has no authority whatever to compel the attendance of elders, as is the case with the ministers, who *ex-officio* are permanent members of the Presbytery.

There is some language in the third reason assigned by our protesting brethren which is not warranted by the decision of the General Assembly, but which it may be proper to ascribe to the haste in which of necessity the document was prepared. There is nothing in the resolutions of the General Assembly, as our brethren imagine, that can serve as a hint to the eldership that their presence might be undesirable.

Whether the Constitution should or should not require the presence of any given number of ruling elders to constitute a quorum, the Assembly have given no expression of opinion; all that they have decided is simply this: that the Constitution of the Church does not make the presence of ruling elders necessary to a quorum of Presbytery. If our protesting brethren think that the cause of truth and order would be promoted by the practice which they wish to introduce, let them propose a change in the language of the Constitution. It would be an easy matter to say, "Any three ministers, and one, two, or three ruling elders, belonging to the Presbytery, being convened at the time and place fixed for meeting, shall be a quorum competent to proceed to business;" and had it been the design of those who framed and adopted our Form of Government to render the presence of one or more elders necessary to a quorum, they would doubtless have used some such language as this. As the paper signed by the Rev. W. L. Breekinridge and the Rev. John Montgomery, protesting against the decision on this point, and also against the decision relating to the imposition of hands in ordination, assigns no reasons, but merely expresses the convictions of these brethren, the General Assembly deems it unnecessary to notice this paper, further than to say that the Assembly does not see what possible connection there is between the two decisions, so that the one "appropriately and of necessity follows" the other.

On motion, the Permanent Clerk was directed to pay the bills for the incidental expenses of this Assembly, and to draw upon the Board of Trustees for the amount thereof out of the Contingent Fund. On motion,

Resolved, That the cordial thanks of this General Assembly be presented to the pastor, Session and Trustees of the Central Presbyterian Church for the use of their church; and also to the citizens of Philadelphia for their hospitality to the members of this Assembly during these sessions.

The minutes of the present session were read and approved.

An hour was spent in devotional exercises.

The Assembly having finished their business, it was

Resolved, That this General Assembly be dissolved, and that another General Assembly, chosen in like manner, be required to meet in the First Presbyterian Church in the city of Louisville, Kentucky, on the third Thursday of May, A. D. 1844, at 11 o'clock, A. M.

Accordingly, the Moderator dissolved the Assembly with singing, prayer, and the apostolic benediction.

JOHN M. KREBS, *Permanent Clerk*.

Philadelphia, May 31, 1843.

APPENDIX.

NARRATIVE OF THE STATE OF RELIGION,

PRESENTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
TO THE CHURCHES UNDER THEIR CARE.

CHRISTIAN BRETHREN: As we are assembled together from all portions of our beloved Zion, our first attention is naturally directed to the religious history of the past year, and you will expect from us some general statement of the information here afforded. With deep and anxious interest we received the annual reports from our numerous Presbyteries, recounting the dealings of Providence toward them, and all those events and circumstances which affect their spiritual condition. Sometimes, in past years, we have had so much to deplore in the state of the churches, and so many painful events to record, that our narrative, like the prophet's roll, was filled with mourning and lamentation. This year, however, we felt encouraged to expect much gratifying intelligence. From so many portions of our widely-extended bounds we had already heard the notes of joy and gratitude that we were prepared for cheering and animating tidings from many highly-favored churches. But the examination of the reports which have been received from nearly all our Presbyteries discloses an amount of blessings enjoyed, a degree of spiritual prosperity throughout our borders, far exceeding our highest expectations. It has indeed been a year of mercy and goodness, distinguished by constant and numerous tokens of divine favor, and by an almost entire exemption from those evils which we have usually so much cause to deplore.

Even from those parts of our Zion which have not been blessed with copious effusions of the Holy Spirit's influence we nevertheless receive assurances that this has been a year of special blessings and of freedom from those pernicious evils which formerly prevailed.

But the Assembly has the happiness to communicate information which will fill many hearts with joy and call forth many thanksgivings to the God of all grace. It is that far the greater number of the reports from the Presbyteries contain accounts of remarkable revivals of religion among their churches.

The following Presbyteries have been blessed with special effusion of the Holy Spirit upon more or less of the congregations within their bounds—viz. Troy, Albany, Hudson, Bedford, North River, New York 1st and 2d, Long Island, Elizabethtown, Raritan, New Brunswick, West Jersey, Philadelphia 1st and 2d, Newcastle, Carlisle, Lancaster, Erie, Transylvania, Richland, Wooster, Miami, Washington, Cincinnati, Steubenville, Susquehanna, Lexington, Logansport, Madison, Louisville, Sidney, Palestine, Schuyler, Lake, St. Louis, West Lexington, Nashville, Beaver, Western District, Donegal, Huntingdon, Newton, Oxford, Chickasaw, East Hanover, West Hanover, Concord, Bethel, Georgia, Tuscaloosa, North, East, and South Alabama, Mississippi, and Florida. In all these Presbyteries there have been special manifestations of the presence and power of the Spirit in reviving the churches and in the

conversion of sinners. In several of them the work has been powerful, reaching all their congregations, and resulting in the ingathering of many hundreds of souls into the visible fold of the Redeemer. In some instances the number of hopeful conversions in a single Presbytery exceeds one thousand; and in one congregation three hundred have been added to the Lord. Among these highly-favored Presbyteries a few may be mentioned as pre-eminently distinguished by a very extensive and extraordinary effusion of the Holy Spirit. The churches in the Presbyteries of Troy, Elizabethtown, Lexington, and the Synod of Alabama may be referred to as favored by such signal manifestations of the Redeemer's presence.

From the report of these fifty-three highly-favored Presbyteries it appears that the number of congregations within their bounds which have been blessed with a precious season of revival during the past year must exceed four hundred. And besides all these, hundreds of other churches are reported as favored with encouraging tokens of the Redeemer's presence.

In conveying to the churches these glad tidings of rich and extensive blessings, thus graciously bestowed, the Assembly cannot fail to call upon all who love our Zion to unite with us in thanksgiving and praise. The Lord hath done great things for us, whereof we are glad. The Lord hath visited his people, and blessed be his holy name!

While we rejoice in these rich harvests of spiritual blessings, and devoutly thank God that such numerous and extensive fields of our thirsty Zion have thus been refreshed and fertilized by the showers of divine mercy, it is an additional cause of devout gratitude that these revivals have been so entirely free from noisy excitement, extravagance, and fanaticism, and have been characterized by scriptural evidence of the presence and influences of the Holy Spirit. The reports from nearly all the Presbyteries in whose bounds these blessed influences have been enjoyed contain special information as to the means and circumstances connected with these gracious visitations. The faithful, pungent ministry of the word and a solemn regular attendance upon the ordinances of divine worship are mentioned as the means principally instrumental in producing and promoting this work of grace wherever it has extended. While all exciting measures and appeals to the passions of men have been carefully avoided, the faithful exhibition of the great doctrines of the gospel has been mighty to subdue the hearts of men to the obedience of faith. Besides the labors of the ministry, mention is made in many of the reports of other means of grace auxiliary to the public preaching of the gospel, which have been owned and blessed of God to the awakening and conversion of many souls. Among these are the thorough instruction of the young in the Shorter Catechism, the formation of Bible-classes, and the wise and prayerful management of Sunday-schools. It is stated that in many instances the setting apart of days of prayer and fasting, followed by family visitation and neighborhood meetings for religious instruction and conference, have been signally owned of the Lord. A regular and devout attendance upon the monthly concert of prayer is also mentioned as instrumental in many places of promoting the revival.

It is worthy of special notice that several of the Presbyteries refer to the prevailing distresses and embarrassments as to temporal things as evidently instrumental, in the hand of God, in bringing men to the Saviour's feet and turning their hearts to the wisdom of the just. The vain hopes and strong delusions of worldly prosperity have been removed in mercy, that the hearts of their votaries might feel their perishing need and be opened to receive the subduing power of a Saviour's love.

Another fact of deep interest, which is repeatedly stated, is that a large proportion of the young persons who have hopefully become subjects of re-

newing grace were the children of the covenant, baptized in infancy and trained up by pious mothers in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. In this sovereign discrimination God shows himself faithful to his promises and ever graciously mindful of the seed of his own people.

Another remarkable feature in many of these revivals is their evident connection with painful and afflictive divisions in congregations for conscience' sake. In several instances a feeble minority were constrained, by their attachment to the doctrines and order of our Church, to abandon their place of worship and go forth destitute and shelterless. But some such little flocks have been visited in rich mercy. The Holy Spirit has drawn graciously near, rejoicing their hearts, wiping away their tears, and causing the days of their mourning to be ended. And not only have their own drooping hearts been refreshed and comforted, but their children have been gathered into the Redeemer's fold, and a great company of those around them have been called by divine grace, and now joyfully unite with them in the willing bonds of an everlasting covenant.

In other instances the revival is instrumentally ascribed to the circulation of some of those excellent and highly spiritual volumes given to the Church by our Board of Publication. The design and action of that benevolent Board in furnishing the whole Church with such valuable works upon practical and experimental religion are sanctioned by the seal of divine approbation.

It is moreover a circumstance of no ordinary interest that a good many of these Presbyteries so greatly blessed with extensive revivals express their belief that the flourishing state of religion among them has been greatly promoted by the success and triumphs of the cause of Temperance; thereby evincing how formidable a barrier against the progress of the gospel is presented by the use of intoxicating liquors.

In addition to this brief enumeration of causes and influences connected with these extensive and remarkable revivals of religion, we can only mention that several of the reports particularly refer to the religious instruction of sailors and boatmen, to the efforts recently made to promote the observance of the Sabbath, and to the adoption of the colporteur system, as valuable auxiliaries in promoting this great and good work.

It may be proper, however, in this connection to make special reference to some other interesting facts connected with this subject. Several colleges and other literary institutions, over which some of our own ministers preside, are mentioned as not only largely sharing in the gracious influences enjoyed by the communities in which they are situated, but also as exerting a salutary influence in promoting the work of grace around them. It is also gratefully recorded by several Presbyteries that the untiring labors of the missionaries and agents of our Domestic Board have been signally successful in gathering in the harvest from the whitened fields. And it is highly gratifying to learn that in several congregations wholly destitute of the preached word a blessed season of revival was enjoyed, with no other instrumentality than the exhortations, the labors, and prayers of the elders of the Church.

From these pleasing details of remarkable effusions of the Spirit upon such extensive fields within our bounds the Assembly would now turn to the review of other interesting events which have occurred during the ecclesiastical year. Our attention is first called to the fact that in very many of the reports which have been received mention is made of the progress and success of the principles of Temperance; and there is a general and decisive testimony that the change thus effected in prevailing habits has proved of a purifying and elevating character, and that, so far from regarding temperance as a substitute for the gospel, it has sometimes happened that reformed in-

ebriates have been led by their first calm and sober reflections to inquire with deep anxiety, What must we do to be saved?

Another subject of deep interest is the religious condition of the *colored population*. Particular reference is had to this matter in nearly every report. Everywhere a deep concern is manifested in the spiritual state of the negroes, and everywhere a cheering assurance is given that these labors for their benefit are not in vain. From the South especially there are reported general and increasing efforts to place the faithful preaching of the gospel within the reach of as many slaves as possible. Probably our ministers in the southern portions of Carolina, Georgia, and Alabama habitually preach to a greater number of colored hearers than white; and in many instances a pastoral charge is assumed or retained for the sole purpose of giving the Bread of life to hundreds of slaves and their children.

From the Boards of the Church reports are given replete with encouraging and gratifying intelligence. The Board of Foreign Missions are carrying forward their great work, and diligently laboring in the important stations which they are called to occupy in the vast field of the world. In a population of forty millions in India accessible to missionary labors they stand almost alone as the heralds of salvation. Already have they passed over the prostrate barriers which encompassed the Celestial Empire, and pitched their tent in China in the name of the Lord. From the zeal, intelligence, and energy of those dear brethren, who are laborious servants of the Church in this great and glorious work, the Assembly confidently expects the most auspicious results. If only an increased liberality shall furnish the means of cultivating the fields already occupied, and if the inspiring call from the millions in China should draw forth the means of entering upon that glorious enterprise, we may joyfully anticipate that this will be *a year of the right hand of the Most High*.

The Board of Domestic Missions reports an extent of labor and a degree of success far surpassing all former experience. Supporting wholly, or in part, more than three hundred ministers, giving the Bread of life to a still greater number of congregations, it seems truly wonderful how with such limited resources so much has been accomplished. Largely have the ministers and missionaries employed by this Board shared in the rich spiritual harvests of the year, as the number they have received into communion is about five thousand. Such are the prospects now opening before the Board, and so wide are the fields already prepared for the harvest which invite their entrance, that with adequate funds it is reasonable to expect a vast increase in the labor and success of those beloved brethren who are so devotedly engaged in this vitally important agency in building up the kingdom of Christ.

The Board of Education also add their grateful testimony to the loving-kindness of the Lord. In the great work of filling the ranks of an able, learned, and devoted ministry they have been greatly encouraged during the past year. It has been their privilege to appropriate the benefactions of the Church to an increased number of valuable young men to sustain them during their preparation for the sacred office; and they regard the prospect as highly favorable in reference to a supply of the urgent wants of our widely-extended destitutions. Let the united, earnest prayers of all who love our Zion be continually addressed to the Lord of the harvest that he may send forth many laborers into his harvest.

From the Board of Publication the Assembly has again received a gratifying account of the continued success which has attended their labors. In the important work of selecting and publishing books of sterling value for the supply of our entire denomination they have enjoyed many tokens of

divine approbation. A large supply of these excellent publications is kept constantly on hand; and it is earnestly recommended to the several Synods to establish depositories within their bounds respectively, that these treasures of truth and piety may be accessible to every congregation and every family in our connection.

To our theological seminaries we look with deep solicitude as the more immediate fountains of supply and refreshment, and rejoice to receive such encouraging reports of their condition and prospects. The number of students in all of them has been greater the year past than formerly; and we trust they will continue to be blessed and honored of the Lord in furnishing and perpetuating an able, devoted and efficient ministry.

From the various and distant portions of our bounds we receive a cordial and united testimony as to the kind and amount of religious instructions imparted to the children of the Church, and the rich blessings which have thence resulted. Sunday-schools have been conducted in a more spiritual manner than formerly, with more direct efforts to indoctrinate the young in our distinctive principles and to guide the lambs of the flock into the Saviour's fold. The Shorter Catechism has thus become the principal manual, the constant text-book, in these schools of piety, these nurseries of the Church. Nor has the faithful catechetical instruction of the young been limited to the Sunday-school. In very many Christian families and congregations it has formed a regular exercise in which parents, elders, and pastors have labored with prayerful and persevering diligence. This course of active duty appears to have been followed by the divine blessing. Wherever this moral culture has been employed fruits have been produced which have enriched and gladdened the churches of our God. In the great harvest of souls which has been gathered during the past year the large proportion of those in early youth, of those who were teachers or pupils in Sunday-schools and Bible-classes, of those who enjoyed special family instruction in the Catechism, and of those who received regular pastoral attention in the congregation, affords abundant evidence of the fullness of blessing with which the faithful discharge of these duties is uniformly crowned. Let all our churches, our pastors, and elders engage heartily and zealously in this good work, and we may hope to see our whole territory become the garden of the Lord.

In the numerous narratives of the revivals which so many of our churches have enjoyed we cannot fail to notice the signal fulfillment of the promise that those who sow plentifully shall reap plentifully. In many instances it manifestly appears that blessings were bestowed in proportion to the faith and prayers of God's people, and to the amount of scriptural means and efforts which were employed; and wherever God has appeared to build up Zion he has poured out a spirit of supplication and Christians have been distinguished for unity of doctrine and harmony of effort. We hear of no complaints of divisions and controversies, no disorganizing intrusion of self-styled evangelists, no prevalence of new measures, in those highly favored regions where the work of God has been so gloriously revived.

Very interesting information has also been received from the Presbytery of Allahabad, in Northern India. No ordinary thanks are due to the great Head of the Church that we are allowed to receive glad tidings from that dark land of paganism. The Spirit of God has also vouchsafed his presence to our dear brethren of the Missionary churches there established belonging to our own body, and the report of whose condition and prospects we may now hope will be regularly communicated to the Assembly.

While we thankfully acknowledge the rich blessings which it has pleased God in his infinite mercy to bestow upon our own people, we rejoice to hear

from so many of our sister churches that they have so largely shared in similar gracious visitations.

The delegates from corresponding bodies presented reports which afforded great satisfaction. From the General Synod of the Reformed Dutch Church the following interesting statements were received :

“From the Narratives of the State of Religion that were sent up to the last General Synod it appears that the churches under their care were generally walking in peace and prospering, and exhibited pleasing proofs of the prevalence of spiritual life among them, while some of them were blessed with revivals of religion. Since then revivals have greatly increased among them, and at the present time many congregations are rejoicing in these visitations of divine grace. These revivals have been produced by the blessing of God on the ordinary means of grace, while evangelism and what are generally called new measures are but little known among us. The fathers of the Reformed Dutch Church in the formation of its Constitution appear to have kept constantly in view the great principle that truth is in order to holiness ; and that as God has revealed it, so he blesses it by making it his chief instrument in the awakening and conversion of sinners and in the sanctification of believers. Hence by the constitution of their Church it is expressly stipulated in the call for a minister to settle as a pastor among them that he shall diligently and steadily instruct the children and youth of his charge in the Catechism of the Church, and that in the stated ministrations of the Sabbath he shall, within the space of every four years, preach in regular order through the whole of the Catechism, thus presenting to his congregation within that time the sum of Christian truth and duty. Moreover, it is required that at the spring meeting of each Classis strict inquiry shall be made of each minister and elder whether these provisions of the Constitution are faithfully obeyed. By thus having the great and fundamental doctrines and duties of the word of God constantly held up before them on the Sabbath, the people of our churches become well acquainted with them, and in general strongly attached to them ; and when the Holy Spirit impresses them with a transforming and sanctifying efficacy on the heart, a Christian character is formed marked by intelligence, stability, and consistent piety, by devotion toward God and integrity toward man.”

From the General Association of Massachusetts the state of religion has been, on the whole, in a high degree prosperous, as much so as in any former year. Revivals have been as numerous and equally free from hurtful mixtures. The tone of evangelical doctrine is evidently rising :

“Our churches for the most part are but little affected by the many erroneous doctrines and disorganizing theories of which our age is so fruitful, and which are advocated and spread abroad with such untiring zeal and activity. They are disposed steadfastly to adhere to the faith and the ecclesiastical institutions which were handed down from their Puritan ancestors. There is among us a great degree of harmony in respect to matters of faith and practice, and in those cases in which some differences of opinion have existed angry and bitter controversy has hitherto, for the most part, been quelled by a sincere, earnest desire to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace. In addition to the purity of doctrine which prevails in our churches and the harmony and fraternal affection which knits them together, the great Head of the Church has vouchsafed to visit many portions of our spiritual Zion with precious and powerful revivals of religion ; and it may safely be presumed that the report which will be laid before the General Conference in a few weeks will show that a larger addition has been made to our churches than has been the case for many years.”

From the General Association of New Hampshire we have the following statements.

"The churches embraced in the General Association of New Hampshire have the past year been highly favored of the Lord. In some counties there have been revivals of more or less extent and power in almost every town. In these revivals means have been more manifestly subordinate, and the hand of God more strikingly apparent, than in some previous revivals. They have usually commenced and been sustained without a resort to extraordinary means, but by the increased and more faithful use of the ordinary means. There have been fewer impulses and stimulants and less unnatural excitement, and there has been, it is believed, a more frequent and discriminating presentation of the great elementary truths and doctrines of religion. The result has been that revivals have not been quite as ephemeral and spasmodic as in some former years, and religious experience, it is hoped, less superficial and defective. There has been more definiteness and precision of doctrinal belief. There is greater symmetry and completeness of Christian character, we believe, in the young converts than there has been in some previous revivals—less of a disposition to force into undue prominence certain traits of Christian character, and to cast into the background others equally important; less inclination to fall in with that spirit of the age that tends to make Christians that are all bone and muscle, unadorned with those more quiet and passive graces, the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, humility, kindness, gentleness, and charity."

From the Evangelical Consociation of Rhode Island the report contains the following remarks:

"Our Consociation embraces seventeen churches, sixteen ministers, and about two thousand six hundred members. Two of these churches have been formed during the past year. All have settled pastors except four, and these have a stated supply, and will soon, in all probability, have each of them a settled, permanent ministry. The pastors and churches composing this body are united in sentiment and action, Jesus Christ, as we trust, being the chief Corner-stone. Our last annual report speaks of the addition of near five hundred members to our churches, and of many more who give evidence of being born of the Spirit. The year embraced in that report was one of high religious interests throughout our bounds, and one which gave animating hopes of the future. But we have to record with sorrow that those hopes were suddenly blasted by the civil commotions which agitated our little State almost to dissolution.

"While the conservative energy of the gospel was seen and felt amidst these conflicts, religion itself suffered in its institutions and interests. The Holy Spirit, that 'flies from the realms of noise and strife,' departed at the sound of martial alarm and the sight of armed hosts; revivals ceased, the Sabbath was desecrated, the sanctuary forsaken, and all our enterprises of Christian benevolence languished. But prayers were offered incessantly by the faithful few, both in the closet and the conference-room. The ear of the Lord was open to our supplications, the counsels of our enemies was turned into foolishness, and peace restored without the shedding of blood. Law and order are again restored to our commonwealth, and, thanks to the God of our fathers! we are again enjoying the blessings of peace and quietness."

Having thus given a general view of the events of the year so interesting and remarkable in our history, we cannot bring this Narrative to a conclusion without inviting all our brethren to unite with us in a devout thank-offering for the rich blessings we have received. In surveying the evidence and the results of the manifested presence of the Redeemer we should be solemnly reminded that this very affluence of spiritual good imposes new responsibili-

ties and obligations. While we gratefully recognize that holy influence which has descended upon so many of our congregations like dew upon the mown grass or showers that water the earth, let us not forget the waste places which are like the heath in the wilderness, which knoweth not when good cometh. While our hearts are gladdened by the tidings that thousands of the children of the Church have been gathered into the fold of the good Shepherd, let us weep over thousands who are still crowding the dark and downward way.

Could we be furnished with a complete history of this year of mereies, we should find it replete with admonition as well as encouragement. Those churches which have been so graciously refreshed and strengthened by the Holy Spirit's presence and energy should deeply feel the new and powerful claims which are urged upon them for a commensurate activity and devotedness. Where much is given, much will be required; and it is the revealed purpose of God when he enriches and exalts a people in a season of revival that they may be a city set on a hill, a light of the world. While, therefore, the voice of thanksgiving and praise is heard in their habitations, let them gird themselves for those ceaseless strivings, those high endeavors, to which they are divinely called. And those churches which mourn their destitution of such copious showers of mercy have still abundant cause of gratitude for the measure of spiritual prosperity they *have* enjoyed, and for exemption from soul-destroying evils which formerly prevailed. This should animate them to a more active engagedness in the work which God has given them to do, and excite in them a spirit of earnest prayer for that success which proceeds not from skill nor eloquence nor might, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord, that their faith may not stand in the wisdom of man, but in the power of God.

Let the experience of the past fully convince us that the faithful discharge of covenanted duties by ministers, elders, and private members is indispensable to any scriptural expectation of spiritual blessings, and that as Presbyterians we are sacredly bound by allegiance and fidelity to our supreme Head to adhere strictly to our standards of doctrine and order.

Finally, as we are admonished that Christian affection, harmony of sentiment and action, must prevail in order to our enjoying the gracious presence of the Comforter, we exhort you, dear brethren, to be of one mind, to cultivate the unity of the Spirit in the bonds of peace, and to labor together in prayer and faith and active zeal to advance that kingdom which is righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost. "Therefore be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor will not be in vain in the Lord."

GARDINER SPRING, *Moderator.*

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.

THE General Assembly has under its care *nineteen* Synods, comprising *one hundred and five* Presbyteries, viz.:

1. The Synod of Albany, containing the *five* Presbyteries of Londonderry, Ogdensburg, Troy, Albany, and Columbia.

2. The Synod of New York, containing the *six* Presbyteries of Hudson, North River, Bedford, Long Island, New York, and New York 2d.

3. The Synod of New Jersey, containing the *seven* Presbyteries of Elizabethtown, New Brunswick, Newton, Raritan, Susquehanna, Steuben, and Wyoming.

4. The Synod of Philadelphia, containing the *nine* Presbyteries of Philadelphia, Philadelphia 2d, West Jersey, New Castle, Donegal, Baltimore, Carlisle, Huntingdon, and Northumberland.

5. The Synod of Pittsburgh, containing the *seven* Presbyteries of Redstone, Ohio, Erie, Beaver, Allegheny, Blairsville, and Clarion.

6. The Synod of Wheeling, containing the *four* Presbyteries of Steubenville, Washington, New Lisbon, and St. Clairsville.

7. The Synod of Ohio, containing the *five* Presbyteries of Columbus, Lancaster, Marion, Richland, and Wooster.

8. The Synod of Cincinnati, containing the *six* Presbyteries of Chillicothe, Miami, Cincinnati, Oxford, Sidney, and Maumee.

9. The Synod of Indiana, containing the *eight* Presbyteries of Salem, Vincennes, Madison, Crawfordsville, Indianapolis, Logansport, Michigan, and Lake.

10. The Synod of Illinois, containing the *six* Presbyteries of Kaskaskia, Sangamon, Schuyler, Peoria, Palestine, and Iowa.

11. The Synod of Missouri, containing the *three* Presbyteries of Missouri, St. Louis, and Palmyra.

12. The Synod of Kentucky, containing the *five* Presbyteries of Louisville, Muhlenburg, Transylvania, West Lexington, and Ebenezer.

13. The Synod of Virginia, containing the *five* Presbyteries of Greenbrier, Lexington, Winchester, West Hanover, and East Hanover.

14. The Synod of North Carolina, containing the *three* Presbyteries of Orange, Fayetteville, and Concord.

15. The Synod of West Tennessee, containing the *five* Presbyteries of Holston, West Tennessee, Nashville, North Alabama, and Western District.

16. The Synod of South Carolina and Georgia, containing the *eight* Presbyteries of South Carolina, Bethel, Harmony, Charleston, Georgia, Hopewell, Flint River, and Florida.

17. The Synod of Alabama, containing the *three* Presbyteries of South Alabama, Tuscaloosa, and East Alabama.

18. The Synod of Mississippi, containing the *seven* Presbyteries of Mississippi, Louisiana, Clinton, Tombeckbee, Chickasaw, Arkansas, and Indian.

19. The Synod of Northern India, containing the *three* Presbyteries of Lodiana, Furrukabad, and Allahabad.

SUMMARY VIEW OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES FOR 1843.

PRESBYTERIES.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Com. added on Examination.	Com. added on Certificate.	Total of Communicants.	Adults Baptized.	Infants Baptized.	Funds raised for Dom. Missions.	Funds raised for Foreign Missions.	Funds raised for Education.	Funds raised for Board of Publication.	Funds raised for Theological Seminaries.	Commissioners' Fund.	Contingent Fund.	Miscellaneous Collections.	STATED CLERKS OF PRESBYTERIES.
Londonderry	20	...	...	10	174	...	1740	51	46	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	17	.....	.....	Edward L. Parker.
Ogdensburg	5	...	5	7	38	22	870	13	38	39	104	16	.....	.....	.....	\$ 5 00	.....	John A. Savage.
Troy	10	3	6	10	117	67	1647	38	68	352	645	386	.....	56	37	5 75	1121	Ebenezer D. Maltbie.
Albany	34	7	14	26	176	113	3420	44	170	938	1600	660	75	150	49	48 75	2776	John Clancy.
Columbia	6	...	3	7	10	139	1	10	28	.....	46	39	.....	.....	.....	3 00	.....	Alfred Gardner.
Hudson	20	...	2	15	109	61	1890	12	65	239	480	89	.....	83	28	20 95	193	John H. Leggett.
North River	13	5	3	8	106	43	1069	37	52	139	228	37	.....	35	25	16 23	528	John Johnston.
Bedford	16	1	2	16	197	18	1308	88	31	335	632	103	.....	64	19	16 93	151	Jacob Green.
Long Island	14	...	4	16	165	36	2228	67	115	175	274	133	.....	9	19	8 06	893	James M. Dougall.
New York	29	8	7	14	203	205	3741	47	161	1817	2255	799	88	307	129	118 51	9480	John M. Krebs, D. D.
New York 2d	9	...	...	6	31	40	1296	2	71	97	280	.....	.....	.....	.....	4 00	.....	J. Melroy, D. D.
Elizabethtown	27	3	3	22	491	128	4526	199	213	693	998	540	.....	107	41	40 90	3382	J. M. Huntington.
New Brunswick	37	15	5	20	418	129	4008	240	200	737	1430	349	.....	334	62	46 20	416	Eli F. Cooley.
Newton	26	4	4	29	520	84	3482	84	261	508	766	470	.....	163	32	21 74	577	John Gray.
Karitan	10	...	...	...	12	215	23	1424	97	105	114	92	.....	30	15	14 00	157	P. O. Studdiford.
Susquehanna	12	1	4	20	125	54	1269	28	56	177	202	37	15	10	33	2 25	116	John Dorrance.
Steubon	7	2	1	8	92	19	387	3	17	44	107	11	.....	35	28	4 00	30	Isaac W. Platt.
Wyoming	12	...	2	9	72	44	878	8	30	77	41	3	.....	20	19	3 00	127	Richard Kay.
Philadelphia	27	12	20	18	491	206	4227	64	332	1676	3607	1889	590	600	90	78 75	2168	Wm. M. Engles, D. D.
Philadelphia 2d	9	4	4	13	204	55	1126	73	113	110	276	104	.....	15	11	10 50	2145	W. D. Howard.
West Jersey	13	1	5	14	213	36	1443	87	93	299	275	211	.....	70	12	7 50	737	Samuel Beach Jones.
New Castle	18	4	4	21	238	58	3102	81	133	315	702	176	95	23	8	7 50	1230	R. P. Du Bois.
Donegal	12	...	...	...	18	151	30	1472	38	88	645	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	366	Alfred Nevins.
Baltimore	17	5	5	22	120	32	1711	13	79	350	329	83	.....	50	15	9 00	222	R. T. Berry.
Carlisle	26	4	6	40	172	33	3121	15	114	315	990	363	10	81	20	9 52	470	Thomas Creigh.
Huntington	22	1	6	34	1082	150	4814	192	483	668	604	351	.....	68	75	12 00	229	Joshua Moore.
Northumberland	18	3	4	29	402	81	2949	91	153	117	691	248	5	46	46	15 00	4595	Isaac Grier.
Real Stone	...	...	2	30	188	53	2769	72	209	611	339	327	.....	95	57	8 50	.....	A. G. Fairchild.
Ohio	37	1	12	31	358	152	3768	66	309	1098	1615	725	6	984	114	26 03	1936	Wm. E. McIvaine.
Erie	11	2	5	28	218	63	1473	34	183	105	251	46	.....	30	21	3 00	125	John V. Reynolds.
Beaver	11	1	...	20	157	73	1611	21	198	98	112	35	.....	75	25	5 50	.....	Robert Dilworth.
Allegheny	12	...	3	21	91	47	1840	19	170	47	153	75	.....	73	51	5 17	5	John R. Agnew.

Blairsville.....	20	2	4	36	268	113	3999	37	320	496	290	395	3	296	63	10	50	118	Watson Hughes.
Clarion	9	1	...	13	163	39	1390	29	165	6	94	64	.....	8	34	2	50	.....	David Polk.
Stonewille	17	1	3	25	215	99	2381	32	210	284	674	242	.....	543	37	.....	.....	256	John W. Scott.
Washington	26	6	8	27	374	113	3669	70	296	772	930	899	54	155	115	17	20	236	John Eagleson.
New Lisbon	13	...	3	26	163	40	1492	23	171	99	303	68	.....	54	15	1	50	.....	Wm. O. Stratton.
St. Clairsville.....	11	...	4	20	94	67	1405	31	177	93	129	70	.....	31	46	1	00	41	Benjamin Mitchell.
Columbus	11	...	3	16	70	50	1160	13	88	196	341	134	.....	28	59	10	50	219	Josiah D. Smith.
Lancaster	13	2	1	30	124	62	2345	25	118	112	210	30	26	4	73	9	00	184	James Culbertson.
Marion	12	...	...	21	115	51	866	20	101	28	13	22	.....	.....	49	25	.....	.....	Wm. M. Galbreath.
Rehland	14	2	1	27	293	102	1914	83	181	114	118	57	.....	25	61	6	25	53	Isaac N. Shepherd.
Wooster	19	1	...	38	384	106	2891	61	204	84	223	148	3	.....	104	8	50	57	Edward R. Geary.
Chillicothe	14	1	3	22	120	32	2202	19	85	153	349	.....	.....	.....	13	.....	.....	124	John P. Vandylke.
Miami	13	1	3	24	246	51	1698	88	180	441	344	77	.....	246	71	5	00	320	James C. Barnes.
Cincinnati	9	2	1	17	146	55	1460	37	68	196	443	127	5	.....	30	3	87	996	S. Ramsay Wilson.
Oxford	17	3	4	32	224	77	1726	64	126	269	174	3	3	90	53	.....	.....	99	Thomas E. Hughs.
Sidney	9	2	...	16	153	76	1166	51	138	117	110	5	.....	52	71	3	00	72	John A. Weeks.
Mumaece	5	1	1	12	87	37	399	11	61	11	25	.....	.....	.....	49	.....	.....	15	John M. Crabb.
Salem	7	6	11	18	159	39	996	51	55	121	97	153	.....	35	33	.....	.....	261	James Wood.
Vincennes	10	...	...	17	163	16	747	42	102	113	15	.....	.....	9	.....	1	00	25	James Crawford.
Madison	7	...	6	14	99	29	693	21	60	75	58	80	.....	.....	39	.....	.....	9	Daniel Lattimore.
Crawfordsville	9	1	1	21	119	59	1082	22	85	80	14	.....	.....	.....	74	.....	.....	.....	W. A. Ferguson.
Indianapolis	9	2	3	19	117	40	1339	35	84	227	146	.....	.....	.....	54	.....	.....	.....	D. M. Stewart.
Logansport	6	1	2	19	87	65	645	18	41	14	.....	.....	.....	7	38	.....	.....	.....	Alexander Williamson.
Michigan	6	1	1	10	7	24	270	1	16	20	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Wm. C. Kniffin.
Lake	6	...	...	13	53	20	502	13	14	41	5	4	5	10	8	.....	.....	70	J. C. Brown.
Kaskaskia	8	1	...	21	70	42	757	12	43	4	51	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Thomas A. Spilman.
Sangamon	5	...	...	10	46	41	422	5	16	115	7	.....	.....	.....	21	.....	.....	.....	John G. Bergen.
Schuyler	9	1	1	16	96	38	474	23	41	12	29	.....	.....	.....	8	.....	.....	.....	James M. Chase.
Peoria	5	...	...	15	4	4	115	...	5	19	5	2	.....	.....	12	.....	.....	.....	Samuel C. McCune.
Palestine.....	10	...	2	15	103	22	626	41	68	.....	65	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	R. H. Lilly.
Iowa.....	9	1	...	22	68	61	564	8	35	16	1	.....	.....	.....	16	1	00	.....	M. Hummer.
Missouri	8	3	2	21	188	18	1012	102	51	39	53	399	.....	450	26	11	50	685	Wm. G. Bell.
St. Louis	12	...	2	22	170	82	999	49	68	256	234	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	John F. Cowan.
Palmyra	7	...	4	17	55	11	604	18	33	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	88	.....	.....	535	Franklin B. McElroy.
Louisville	17	2	...	27	317	53	1960	70	153	519	556	345	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	W. L. Breckinridge.
Muhlenburg.....	11	1	1	22	227	39	807	92	125	20	73	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Wm. D. Jones.
Tennessee	11	4	6	23	85	32	1537	62	65	416	399	945	.....	.....	85	.....	.....	600	John Montgomery.
West Lexington	16	4	3	28	170	47	1893	72	119	428	345	423	.....	150	112	15	00	325	Charles A. Campbell.
Ebenezer.....	13	3	...	27	229	43	980	73	106	181	80	73	.....	.....	67	.....	.....	.....	R. C. Grundy.
Greenbrier	11	1	...	19	45	14	781	2	33	32	139	13	.....	5	39	5	00	.....	Joseph Brown.
Lexington.....	35	1	4	40	444	94	3906	109	209	315	485	256	20	139	192	14	50	364	J. A. Van Lear.
Winchester.....	15	3	8	28	49	9	799	6	58	300	326	151	3	32	.....	32	00	172	Peyton Harrison.

PRESBYTERIES.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Com. added on Examination.	Com. Certificate.	Total of Communicants.	Adults Baptized.	Infants Baptized.	Funds raised for Dom. Missions.	Funds raised for Foreign Missions.	Funds raised for Education.	Funds raised for Board of Publication.	Funds raised for Theological Seminaries.	Commissioners' Fund.	Contingent Fund.	Miscellaneous Collections.	STATED CLERKS OF PRESBYTERIES.
West Hanover	29	3	5	36	79	24	1410	30	75	500	552	84	50	17	146	.....	.....	P. J. Sparrow.
East Hanover	12	5	3	10	144	37	1274	60	109	499	1332	538	28	89	65	28 72	935	John Leyburn.
Orange	26	3	4	43	100	23	2289	28	94	206	393	489	10	9	120	13 00	251	N. H. Harding, D. D.
Fayetteville	21	1	12	43	94	16	3569	15	185	22	426	64	33	13	89	5 50	.....	Colin McIver.
Concord	29	3	4	52	231	23	5074	32	227	430	571	297	.....	.....	111	12 75	.....	Stephen Frontis.
Holston	8	...	...	14	94	12	628	29	45	130	645	.....	.....	.....	80	1 50	440	Samuel Y. Wyly.
West Tennessee	3	...	...	2	10	15	7	582	4	219	217	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	James M. Arnell.
Nashville	8	...	3	14	147	27	579	63	40	225	235	347	60	.....	105	5 00	127	John T. Edgar, D. D.
North Alabama	6	1	1	8	51	8	209	25	46	.....	72	.....	.....	.....	36	3 50	.....	J. O. Steadman.
Western District	16	1	3	28	225	81	1171	73	137	301	99	209	.....	.....	103	3 50	366	Henry M. Kerr.
South Carolina	18	...	9	36	34	4	893	14	72	83	106	184	.....	.....	202	.....	.....	S. B. Lewers.
Bethel	15	1	7	21	109	27	1939	27	78	10	46	100	.....	.....	97	2 50	.....	John Douglas.
Harmony	21	1	1	25	107	37	2088	28	84	63	445	124	27	20	235	.....	.....	Wm. Brarley.
Charleston	13	2	4	7	15	12	627	...	21	99	1052	1073	200	22	.....	.....	1200	B. Gildersleeve.
Georgia	9	2	1	8	...	...	...	...	...	.....	401	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	C. C. Jones.
Hopewell	17	1	2	28	35	13	846	7	29	175	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Francis Bowman.
Flint River	16	3	3	44	115	19	1463	26	79	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	James C. Patterson.
Florida	5	...	...	9	74	11	317	9	64	76	21	.....	.....	.....	5	7 00	.....	Joshua Phelps.
South Alabama	10	1	2	17	187	151	1247	64	118	201	632	365	.....	.....	194	6 00	130	T. S. Witherspoon.
Tuscaloosa	14	2	1	26	206	18	1523	99	78	36	811	.....	.....	.....	100	5 50	681	J. L. Kirkpatrick.
East Alabama	15	2	2	30	96	57	813	11	46	41	124	25	.....	.....	90	.....	.....	David Finley.
Mississippi	10	...	7	13	81	18	706	16	44	668	1830	427	82	144	80	7 75	420	J. Chamberlain, D. D.
Louisiana	14	1	2	13	105	85	645	19	59	1016	531	211	.....	.....	230	11 00	8322	Benjamin Chase.
Clinton	9	1	...	12	152	36	353	40	24	12	68	.....	.....	.....	75	2 50	.....	S. M. Montgomery.
Tombeeklee	8	1	...	20	30	50	346	9	61	.....	147	.....	.....	.....	84	5 00	.....	H. J. Bardwell.
Chickasaw	9	...	2	19	163	52	544	47	43	42	61	.....	.....	.....	.....	8 00	.....	James Weatherby.
Arkansas	5	...	...	5	19	27	80	8	7	40	.....	.....	.....	.....	35	.....	.....	A. K. Banks.
Indian .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	John Newton.
Lodiana	5	...	...	1	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	J. L. Scott.
Furukabad	4	...	...	1	...	...	21	4	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Joseph Owen.
Alahabad	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	1434	183	314	2092	16416	5154	159137	4363	10625	24304	39578	18121	1496	6222	5210	860 03	53086	

GENERAL VIEW.

DURING the past year the Synod of New Jersey has erected out of the Presbytery of Caledonia the two new Presbyteries of Steuben and Wyoming; the Synod of Philadelphia has set off a part of the Presbytery of New Castle and formed the Presbytery of Donegal; the Synod of Indiana has erected the new Presbytery of Lake; the Synod of Mississippi have reported the New Presbytery, Indian, and have changed the name of the Presbytery of Holly Springs to that of Chickasaw; the Presbytery of Tombeckbee has been transferred from the Synod of Alabama to the Synod of Mississippi. The last Assembly took measures for the formation of a new Synod in Western New York under the name of the Synod of Buffalo, for the formation of a new Presbytery within the bounds of the Synod of New Jersey under the name of the Presbytery of Luzerne, and transferred the Presbytery of West Jersey from the Synod of Philadelphia to the Synod of New Jersey.

According to the reports received by the Stated Clerk, there has been an increase of ministers during the past year amounting to 118, making the whole number 1434; the number of licentiates reported is 183, being 9 less than the number reported last year; the number of candidates is 314, being 85 more than reported last year; the number of churches 2092, being an increase of 188.

There have been added to the Church during the year, upon a profession of faith, 16,354, and the whole actual increase to the Church has been 18,519. There have been reported—

Baptisms of adults.....	4,337
Ditto of children.....	10,483
Money collected for religious purposes.....	147,867
Licenses.....	58
Ordinations.....	51
Installations.....	72
New churches organized.....	37
Dissolution of the pastoral relation.....	30
Ministers dismissed to other bodies.....	7
Ministers received from other bodies.....	10
Licentiates dismissed to other bodies.....	2
Ministers deposed.....	3
License recalled.....	5
Churches received from other bodies.....	6
Churches gone to other bodies.....	4

The following ministers are reported as having died during the last year, viz.:

	PRESBYTERIES.
Rev. Orin H. Canfield (Miss. to Africa).....	New Brunswick.
“ Robert Birch.....	“
“ Jonathan Dickinson.....	Carlisle.
“ James R. Sharon.....	“
“ Joseph Reed.....	Beaver.
“ James Wright.....	“
“ Benjamin Tyler.....	West Jersey.
“ James Snodgrass.....	Wooster.
“ James B. Morrow.....	“
“ John W. Little.....	Sangamon.
“ Thomas Donnel.....	St. Louis.

PRESBYTERIES.

Rev. Samuel Findley	Transylvania.
" John Williamson	Concord.
" William Quillen	Hopewell.
" William H. Barr, D. D.	South Carolina.
" John Brown, D. D.	Florida.

It is a matter of regret that, notwithstanding the repeated requests that Presbyteries would send up fuller reports, in many instances those transmitted have been exceedingly meagre, and the following Presbyteries have sent up no historical account whatever of changes during the year—viz. Londonderry, Ogdensburg, Troy, Columbia, New York 2d, Newton, Susquehanna, Steuben, Wyoming, Donegal, Baltimore, Marion, Chillicothe, Sidney, Maumee, Vincennes, Madison, Indianapolis, Lake, Peoria, Iowa, Missouri, Palmyra, Muhlenburg, Ebenezer, West Hanover, Bethel, Harmony, Georgia, Flint River, and Tombeckee. Where a neglect is so extensive it must at once appear that the items of our summary can scarcely be relied on as giving a fair view of the facts.

In another case the same imperfection is visible: we mean in the lists of moneys received. Having the reports of the several Boards of the Church before us, we are enabled to detect this deficiency in the statistical tables as far as their receipts are concerned. Thus by comparison it appears that the Board of Foreign Missions has received \$16,632 more than is reported in the tables, the Board of Domestic Missions, \$11,538 more, the Board of Education \$10,986 more, and the Board of Publication \$5114 more than thus reported, increasing the total of moneys collected, without regarding the deficiency in other columns, to \$192,137. This disparity is so great as to awaken distrust of the general accuracy of these tables and to render them less valuable for reference and comparison. Similar deficiencies may be detected in the other columns. Thus in all the tables, as far as the historical account is to be depended on, we find notices of only 37 new churches formed, and yet the missionaries of the Board of Domestic Missions alone report to that Board the organization of 50 new churches. It is submitted to the Presbyteries whether they will not secure greater accuracy for the future.

WM. M. ENGLS,

Stated Clerk of the General Assembly.

P. S. In many instances we are requested to correct the statistical tables after they have been received, and even after the Summary Tables are made out, which not only gives us much additional trouble, but is apt to lead us into mistakes.

W. M. E.

1844.

LOUISVILLE, Kentucky, *May 16th*, 1844.

THE General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America met agreeably to appointment in the First Presbyterian Church, in the city of Louisville, on Thursday, the 16th day of May, A. D. 1844, at 11 o'clock A. M.; and was opened with a sermon by the Rev. Gardiner Spring, D. D., Moderator of the last Assembly, from Matthew xxviii. 20, "Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world."

After the sermon the Moderator took the chair, and opened the session with prayer.

The Stated Clerk, from the Standing Committee of Commissions, reported that the following persons, present, have been duly appointed and are hereby enrolled as Commissioners to this General Assembly, and laid their commissions on the table, viz.:

I. OF THE SYNOD OF ALBANY.

PRESBYTERIES.

Londonderry,
Troy,
Albany,
Columbia.

BISHOPS.

Timothy G. Brainerd (3).*
Reuben Smith (1).
Daniel Stewart,
Jeremiah Wood,

RULING ELDERS.

James C. Magoffin.
Peter Boyd.

II. OF THE SYNOD OF BUFFALO.

Ogdensburg.
Steuben.
Wyoming,

James Remington.

III. OF THE SYNOD OF NEW YORK.

Hudson,
North River,
Bedford,
Long Island,
New York,

James R. Johnson.
John F. Clark.
David Teese.
James C. Edwards.

Gardiner Spring, D. D.,

Thompson Pree.
Micah Baldwin.

New York (2d),

Wm. Marshall.

IV. OF THE SYNOD OF NEW JERSEY.

Elizabethtown,

Joseph M. Ogden,
Abraham Williamson (1),

Wm. M. Cutter.
John Demun.

* A figure attached to the name of a member shows that he was not *enrolled* by the Committee of Commissions in their report at the opening of the Assembly, but that he was subsequently enrolled and took his seat on that day of the sessions designated by the figure.

PRESBYTERIES.

*New Brunswick,**West Jersey,
Newton,**Raritan,
Susquehanna,
Luzerne,*

BISHOPS.

Benj. H. Rice, D. D.,
John Maclean, D. D.C. Van Rensselaer,
D. X. Junkin,James Clark,
Albert Williams,Julius Foster.
*Thomas P. Hunt (3),

RULING ELDERS.

Charles Welling.

J. R. Hughes (2).
John A. Crevling.George R. King.
A. W. Dunham.

C. D. Shoemaker (3).

V. OF THE SYNOD OF PHILADELPHIA.

*Philadelphia,*Cor. C. Cuyler, D. D.,
H. A. Boardman,Wm. S. Boyd.
A. W. Mitchell, M. D.*Philadelphia (2d),
New Castle,
Donegal,
Baltimore,
Carlisle,*Robert D. Morris.
J. B. Spotswood,
P. J. Timlow,
John C. Backus,
Robert McCachren,
Joseph A. Murray (2).Alex. Stephens.
E. M. Donaldson.
George Todd.
Robert G. Young, M. D.*Huntingdon,
Northumberland,*James S. Woods,
D. J. Waller,James Patterson (3).
Samuel Barber.

VI. OF THE SYNOD OF PITTSBURGH.

*Blairsville.
Redstone,
Ohio,*David Kirkpatrick,
N. H. Gillett,
Matthew Brown, D. D.,
David Elliott, D. D.,John Cunningham
John K. Duncan (2).*Allegheny,
Beaver,
Erie,
Clarion,*Leland R. McAboy,
Wells Bushnell,
Cyrus Dickson,
David McCay,Malcolm Leech.
John Hannen.
Robert Sample.
Wm. M. Francis.
Andrew Bowman.
Benjamin Junkin.

VII. OF THE SYNOD OF WHEELING.

*Washington,
Steubenville,
St. Clairsville,
New Lisbon,*John Stockton,
John W. Scott,
Alexander Ewing.
And. O. Patterson,Jacob Slagle.
Joseph Morrison.
Robert Rankin.

VIII. OF THE SYNOD OF OHIO.

*Columbus,
Marion,
Zanesville,
Richland,
Wooster,
Coshocton,
Hocking,*James Hoge, D. D.,
Wm. D. Smith,
James Culbertson,
Henry Hervey,
Wm. McCandlish,
John Matthews (1),
John M. Faris (1),J. A. Troup, M. D.
Wm. B. Irwin.
Leonard P. Bailey.
Stephen Cook.
Alexander Hanna.
Arbuthnot Lyons (1).
John Breckinridge (1).

IX. OF THE SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

*Chillicothe.
Miami,
Cincinnati,*Moses Russell,
Jared M. Stone,John Anderson.
John P. Harrison, M.D.

*The Rev. John Dorrance, by a special vote of the Assembly, afterward took the seat resigned by Mr. Hunt.

PRESBYTERIES.

Oxford,
Sidney,
Maumee,

BISHOPS.

George Junkin, D. D.,
Wilson C. Hollyday,
John M. Crabb,

RULING ELDERS.

A. P. Andrews.
Samuel McCullough.
Wm. Taylor.

X. OF THE SYNOD OF INDIANA.

Salem,
Vincennes,
Madison,
Crawfordsville,
Indianapolis,

Sylvester Seovel,
C. K. Thompson,
Daniel Lattimore,
Samuel Taylor,
Phineas D. Gurley,

Samuel McCampbell.
A. B. McKee.
Victor King (2).
David Wills (2).
J. M. Ray (3).

XI. OF THE SYNOD OF NORTHERN INDIANA.

Logansport,
Michigan,
Lake,

Edward W. Wright.
Enoch Bouton,

Robert Purdy.
J. P. L. Jernegan (3).

XII. OF THE SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.

Kaskaskia,
Sangamon,
Schuyler,
Palestine.
Peoria,
Iowa,

A. C. Allen (3),
David D. McKee.
George Stebbins,
J. Bennett,
Robt. B. Dobbins.
Salmon Cowles.

John Siddall.
G. H. Briscoe (3).
James Smick, M. D.

XIII. OF THE SYNOD OF MISSOURI.

Missouri,
St. Louis,
Palmyra,
Potosi,
Upper Missouri,

Wm. W. Robertson.
Wm. S. Potts, D. D.,
S. C. McConnell.
D. E. Y. Rice (1),
John L. Yantis (1),

H. R. Gamble (5).
Milton P. Cayce (1).
Charles E. Mills (1).

XIV. OF THE SYNOD OF KENTUCKY.

Louisville,
Muhlenburg,
Transylvania,
West Lexington,
Ebenezer,

John D. Paxton,
Joseph B. Hadden,
John C. Young, D. D.,
Nathan H. Hall,
N. L. Rice (2),

Singleton Wilson.
Wm. W. McKenzie (2).
J. S. Hopkins, (3).
James Stonestreet.
Wilson P. Boyd.

XV. OF THE SYNOD OF VIRGINIA.

Greenbrier,
Lexington,
Winchester,
West Hanover,

East Hanover,
Montgomery,

John McElhenney, D. D.,
Allen D. Metcalf,
Wm. H. Foote,
Samuel B. Wilson, D. D.,
John H. Bocoek,
Wm. S. Plumer, D. D.,
Dion C. Pharr (1),

Wm. Rand.
Charles Patrick.
James C. Baker.
Champe Carter.
John A. Smith (3).
Robert Murray, M. D.
Fred. Johnston (1).

XVI. OF THE SYNOD OF NORTH CAROLINA.

Orange,

Fayetteville,
Concord,

S. J. P. Anderson,
Edward Hines.
Evander McNair,
And. Y. Lockridge,

Robert Donnell.
Hayes W. Beatty.
John H. McDowell.

XVII. OF THE SYNOD OF WEST TENNESSEE.

PRESBYTERIES.	BISHOPS.	RULING ELDERS.
<i>Holston,</i>	R. B. McMullen.	
<i>West Tennessee,</i>	James Woods,	Lemon Oatman.
<i>Nashville,</i>	John Allison,	Peter H. Martin.
<i>North Alabama,</i>	Noble A. Penland,	William Mailler.
<i>Western District,</i>	Alexander A. Campbell.	

XVIII. OF THE SYNOD OF SOUTH CAROLINA AND GEORGIA.

<i>South Carolina,</i>	James F. Gilbert (1),	John S. Reid, M.D. (1).
<i>Bethel,</i>	John Douglass.	
<i>Harmony,</i>	R. C. Ketchum (2),	J. K. Douglass.
<i>Charleston,</i>	Benjamin Gildersleeve,	G. T. Snowden.
<i>Georgia.</i>		
<i>Hopewell,</i>	G. H. W. Petrie.	
<i>Flint River,</i>	John S. Wilson,	A. L. Acee, M. D. (3).
<i>Florida,</i>	Joshua Phelps.	
<i>Cherokee,</i>	Isaac W. Waddel (1),	David Stuart (1).

XIX. OF THE SYNOD OF ALABAMA.

<i>South Alabama,</i>	Wm. C. Emerson (2).	Charles A. Poellnitz (1).
<i>Tuscaloosa,</i>	J. P. McMullen,	P. R. Fleming (5).
<i>East Alabama,</i>	C. L. R. Boyd.	

XX. OF THE SYNOD OF MISSISSIPPI.

<i>Mississippi,</i>	S. V. Marshall,	George P. Strong.
<i>Louisiana,</i>	Benjamin Chase (2),	P. A. Walker.
<i>Clinton,</i>	John H. Gray.	
<i>Tombeckbee,</i>	Daniel McNair (2)..	
<i>Chickasaw,</i>	Daniel L. Gray (1),	R. H. Breford (2).
<i>Arkansas,</i>	Aaron Williams (3).	
<i>Indian.</i>		

XXI. OF THE SYNOD OF NORTHERN INDIA.

<i>Lodiana,</i>	William S. Rogers.
<i>Furrukabad.</i>	
<i>Allahabad.</i>	

FROM CORRESPONDING BODIES.

	BISHOPS.	LAYMEN.
<i>General Association of</i>		
<i>Connecticut.</i>		
<i>Evangelical Consocia-</i>		
<i>tion of R. Island.</i>		
<i>General Association of</i>		
<i>Massachusetts.</i>		
<i>General Convention of</i>		
<i>Vermont.</i>		
<i>General Association of</i>		
<i>New Hampshire.</i>		
<i>General Conference of</i>		
<i>Maine.</i>		
<i>General Synod of the</i>		
<i>Reformed Protestant</i>		
<i>Dutch Church.</i>		
<i>General Synod of the</i>		
<i>German Reformed</i>		
<i>Church.</i>		

The committee further reported that Abraham Williamson, bishop of the Presbytery of Elizabethtown, and Reuben Smith, bishop of the Presbytery of Troy, are present without their commissions; that the following persons have presented commissions from new Presbyteries—viz. John L. Yantis, bishop, and Charles E. Mills, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Upper Missouri; Isaae W. Waddel, bishop, and David Stewart, ruling elder, of the Presbytery of Cherokee; Dion C. Pharr, bishop, and Frederiek Johnston, ruling elder, of the Presbytery of Montgomery; John M. Faris, bishop, and John Breekinridge, ruling elder, of the Presbytery of Hoeking; John Matthews, bishop, and Arbuthnot Lyons, ruling elder, of the Presbytery of Coshocton; D. E. Y. Rice, bishop, and Milton P. Cayce, ruling elder, of the Presbytery of Potosi; and that the commissions of James F. Gilbert, bishop, and John S. Reid, M. D., ruling elder, of the Presbytery of South Carolina, are defective in not having the signature of the Moderator of the Presbytery.

The Stated Clerk reported that he had received official information of the organization of the following new Presbyteries—viz. the Presbytery of Cherokee by the Synod of South Carolina and Georgia; the Presbytery of Montgomery by the Synod of Virginia; the Presbyteries of Potosi and Upper Missouri by the Synod of Missouri; the Presbyteries of Coshocton and Hoeking by the Synod of Ohio; the Presbytery of Luzerne agreeably to the order of the last General Assembly; and of the organization of the Synods of Buffalo and Northern India; and that the name of the Presbytery of Lancaster in the Synod of Ohio had been changed into that of Zanesville.

Resolved, That the foregoing new Presbyteries be enrolled, and that the Commissioners therefrom be admitted to their seats.

On motion, Messrs. Maclean, Stewart, Ogden, Baldwin, and Mitchell were appointed a Committee of Elections, to whom were referred the defective commissions.

And then the Assembly took a recess until this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Thursday afternoon, 4 o'clock.

After recess the Assembly met and resumed business.

The Committee of Commissions reported the following additional Commissioner—viz. Charles Augustus Poellnitz, ruling elder, of the Presbytery of South Alabama.

The Committee of Elections reported that they had received satisfactory evidence that the Rev. Reuben Smith, of the Presbytery of Troy, the Rev. Abraham Williamson, of the Presbytery of Elizabethtown, the Rev. James F. Gilbert and Dr. John S. Reid, ruling elder, of the Presbytery of South Carolina, were duly appointed by their respective Presbyteries Commissioners to this General Assembly, and recommended that their names be entered on the roll of the Assembly.

The report was adopted.

The Rev. George Junkin, D. D., was then elected Moderator.

A letter was received from the Rev. Dr. John M. Krebs tendering his resignation of the office of Permanent Clerk; whereupon, on motion, it was

Resolved, That the thanks of the Presbyterian Church are due to the Rev. Dr. Krebs for the very able manner in which he has discharged the duties of Permanent Clerk of the General Assembly for seven years past; and this Assembly, desirous of retaining his valuable services in this office, do *unanimously* request him to reconsider his letter of resignation, and, if consistent with his views of duty, to withdraw the same, and continue to be the Permanent Clerk of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church.

The Rev. Benjamin Gildersleeve was then chosen Permanent Clerk *pro tem.*, and the Rev. Joseph M. Ogden, Temporary Clerk.

The Stated Clerk presented the standing docket, which was read,

It was ordered that five hundred copies of the roll of the Assembly be printed for the use of the members.

On motion it was

Resolved, That it be adopted as a rule for this meeting to commence the morning sessions at 9 o'clock and close them at 1 o'clock P. M., and to commence the afternoon sessions at 4 and close them at 6 o'clock.

The Assembly then adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday morning, May 17, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the calling of the roll in the morning be hereafter dispensed with.

The printed *Minutes* of the last Assembly were distributed among the members.

The Moderator appointed the following standing committees, viz.:

On Bills and Overtures.—Rev. Messrs. Spring, Brown, Hoge, Cuyler, Plumer, Campbell, Bushnell, and Stone; and Ruling Elders Douglass, Donnell, Hannen and Harrison.

Judicial Committee.—Rev. Messrs. S. B. Wilson, Elliott, Potts, Young, B. H. Rice, Stewart, A. O. Patterson, and Morris; and Ruling Elders Strong, Mitchell, Carter, and Francis.

On Leave of Absence.—Rev. Messrs. Remington and Petrie; and Ruling Elders A. B. McKee and Magoffin.

On Mileage.—Ruling Elders Baldwin, Dunham, Johnston and Snowden.

On Devotional Exercises.—Rev. Messrs. Hall, Boardman, Foote, and Seovel.

On the Narrative.—Rev. Messrs. Junkin, McElhenney, Phelps; and Ruling Elder Andrews.

On Foreign Correspondence.—Rev. Messrs. Kirkpatrick and Clark.

On Finance.—Ruling Elders Price, King, Todd; and Rev. Messrs. Edwards and Scott.

An appeal and complaint of the Rev. Dr. R. J. Breckinridge and others against a decision of the Synod of Philadelphia on the quorum of Presbytery, marked No. 1, an appeal and complaint of Rev. Dr. R. J. Breckinridge and others against the Synod of Philadelphia on the subject of ordination, marked No. 2, and an appeal of Mrs. Abby Hanna against a decision of the Synod of Wheeling—were read by their titles, and referred to the Judicial Committee.

The Committee on Commissions reported the following additional members—viz. Rev. Daniel McNair, of the Presbytery of Tombeckbee; Rev. Wm. C. Emerson, of the Presbytery of South Alabama; Rev. R. C. Ketchum, of the Presbytery of Harmony; Rev. Daniel L. Gray, and R. H. Bredford, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Chickasaw; Rev. Joseph A. Murray, from the Presbytery of Carlisle; J. K. Duncan, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Redstone; Rev. Benjamin Chase, from the Presbytery of Louisiana; and Rev. N. L. Rice, from the Presbytery of Ebenezer.

Rev. George Lewis of the Presbytery of Dundee, Scotland, was introduced to the Assembly by the Rev. Dr. Spring, as a delegate from the Free Church of Scotland, and on motion the following minute was adopted, viz.:

Whereas, The Free Church of Scotland which has proven herself worthy to be successor to the Church of Scotland in the days of the martyrs, has, by the grace of God, taken so signal and glorious a stand in favor of Christ's crown and covenant; therefore,

Resolved, That the Assembly do unanimously and most cordially and joy-

fully welcome the Rev. George Lewis, of the Scottish deputation, to the deliberations of our body, and affectionately invite him to take a seat among us as a corresponding member.

Resolved, That the papers of Mr. Lewis be referred to the Committee of Bills and Overtures, to make such presentation of the object of his visit as they may deem most suitable.

Two memorials from the Presbytery of Cincinnati, a memorial from the Presbytery of South Alabama, a memorial from the Presbytery of Concord, a memorial from the Presbytery of Indianapolis, and a memorial from the Presbytery of Luzerne, were received and referred to the Committee of Bills and Overtures.

A memorial from the Synod of Indiana, on the subject of the division of that Synod, and also a protest from the Presbytery of Oxford against said division, were received, and referred to a special committee consisting of Messrs. Culbertson, Stockton, Hervey, Troup, and S. Wilson.

Rev. J. A. Copp, delegate to the General Convention of Vermont; Rev. D. V. McLean, delegate to the General Association of Massachusetts; Rev. Robert Nall, delegate to the Evangelical Association of Rhode Island; Rev. Wm. M. Atkinson, delegate to the General Synod of the German Reformed Church; and Rev. Joseph H. Jones, D. D., delegate to the General Conference of Maine, presented their respective reports, which were read and ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the *Minutes*.

Messrs. J. F. Clark, Dickson, Backus, Barber and Boyd were, on motion, appointed a committee to nominate delegates to attend the foreign bodies in correspondence with this Assembly. On motion,

Resolved, That one copy of each of the minutes of foreign bodies be presented to the Board of Publication, and also one to the library of each of our theological seminaries, to be preserved for reference.

A memorial from the Presbytery of Richland, on the subject of reform in colleges, was received and referred to the Committee of Bills and Overtures.

The annual report of the Directors of the Union Theological Seminary was received and read; whereupon it was

Resolved, That the report be approved and printed in the Appendix to the *Minutes*.

A communication was received from Mr. B. M. Patton, of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind, expressing a desire to give an exhibition of the exercises of their pupils before the General Assembly to-night at a quarter before eight o'clock, at such place as the Assembly may be pleased to designate; whereupon it was

Resolved, That the Assembly accede to the request, and that the said exhibition be held in this church.

A letter was received from the Synod of Australia, New South Wales, which was read and referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the *Minutes*.

An overture was received from the Presbytery of Columbus, which was referred to the Committee of Bills and Overtures.

On motion, a committee consisting of Rev. Messrs. D. D. McKee and J. S. Woods, and Ruling Elder James Smick, was appointed, to make arrangements for the anniversary observances of the several Boards of the Church.

Rev. Dr. Hoge, chairman of the committee appointed by the last Assembly on the subject of Church Extension, presented a report, which was read and accepted; and, on motion, the Assembly

Resolved, To enter immediately upon its consideration.

After some discussion, the Assembly adjourned until 4 o'clock this afternoon.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday afternoon, 4 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Moderator appointed the following committees on synodical records, viz.:

Albany—Rev. James F. Gibert and John S. Wilson; Elder David Stewart.

New York—Rev. J. B. Spotswood and N. H. Gillett; Elder John K. Duncan.

New Jersey—Rev. Enoch Bouton and Phineas D. Gurley; Elder David Mills.

Philadelphia—Rev. Julius Foster and David McCay; Elder Benj. Junkin.

Pittsburgh—Rev. J. B. McMullen and J. W. Waddel; Elder J. S. Reid.

Wheeling—Rev. D. L. Gray and Wm. S. Rogers; Elder P. A. Walker.

Ohio—Rev. John Allison and Edward Hines; Elder Chas. A. Poellnitz.

Cincinnati—Rev. N. L. Rice and John L. Yantis; Elder Chas. E. Mills.

Indiana—Rev. M. Russell and William McCandish; Elder Samuel McCullough.

Northern Indiana—Rev. J. M. Faris and David Lattimore; Elder John Breckinridge.

Illinois—Rev. John Matthews and John M. Crabb; Elder W. Taylor.

Missouri—Rev. W. C. Hollyday and C. R. Thompson; Elder Robert Purdy.

Kentucky—Rev. Robert McCachren and Jos. A. Murray; Elder Robert G. Young.

Virginia—Rev. D. Teese and A. Williams; Elder John Demun.

North Carolina—Rev. Abm. Williamson and Jeremiah Wood; Elder Charles Welling.

West Tennessee—Rev. R. Smith and L. R. McAboy; Elder John Crevling.

South Carolina and Georgia—Rev. C. Van Rensselaer and Samuel Taylor; Elder Joseph Morrison.

Alabama—Rev. Rob't B. Dobbins and J. C. McConnell; Elder J. Smick, M. D.

Mississippi—Rev. W. W. Robertson and Allen D. Metcalf; Elder J. C. Baker.

Northern India—Rev. Dion C. Pharr and C. L. R. Boyd; Elder Peter H. Martin.

The Committee on Commissions reported the following additional Commissioners—viz. Victor King, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Madison; Wm. W. McKenzie, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Muhlenburg, and James R. Hughes, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of West Jersey.

An overture from the Presbytery of Charleston was received, and referred to the Committee of Bills and Overtures.

The committee to arrange the time and order in which the several Boards shall present to the Assembly their annual reports recommended that the Board of Education present their report on Monday, at 10 o'clock, A. M.; the Board of Foreign Missions, on Tuesday; the Board of Missions, on Wednesday; the Board of Publication, on Thursday, at the same hour of each day.

The report was adopted.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported, recommending that they be held in this church on Monday evening next at 8 o'clock, and that the order of exercises be as follows, viz.:

1. Invocation and reading the Scriptures, by the Moderator.
2. Psalmody, by Rev. Reuben Smith.
3. Address, by Rev. George Lewis of the Free Church of Scotland.

4. Prayer, by Dr. Elliott.
5. Psalmody, by Rev. J. S. Wilson.
6. Address, by Rev. N. L. Rice.
7. Prayer, by Rev. John McElheney, D. D.
8. Doxology and Benediction, by Rev. S. Cowles.

The committee also recommended that the annual sermon on popery be delivered on next Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock, by the Rev. H. A. Boardman, agreeably to the appointment of the last General Assembly.

The report of the Trustees of the General Assembly, and also the report of the Treasurer of the Trustees of the General Assembly, were read, accepted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the *Minutes*.

The unfinished business of the morning—viz. the consideration of the report of the Committee on Church Extension—was resumed and continued until the hour of adjournment, when the Assembly adjourned until to-morrow morning, at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday morning, May 18, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Committee on Commissions reported the following additional Commissioners—viz. Rev. Archibald C. Allen, from the Presbytery of Kaskaskia; A. L. Acee, M. D., ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Flint River; John A. Smith, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of West Hanover; J. S. Hopkins, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Transylvania; Rev. Thomas P. Hunt, from the Presbytery of Luzerne.

An Overture from the Synod of Kentucky, a paper from the Presbytery of Northumberland, a paper from the churches of Wilmington and Bethel, a memorial from the church of Clarksville, and a memorial from the Presbytery of Clinton, were read by their titles and referred to the Committee of Bills and Overtures.

The report of Rev. N. Murray, a delegate of the last Assembly to the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church, was read, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the *Minutes*.

The unfinished business of yesterday was resumed—viz. the consideration of the report of the Committee on Church Extension, when, after discussion, the first resolution was adopted.

The second resolution was then taken up and discussed, but before coming to a decision the debate was arrested by the hour of adjournment.

An invitation was received from the Mercantile Library Association of Louisville for the members of the Assembly to visit and use their library and reading-room during their stay in this city; whereupon, it was

Resolved, That the invitation be accepted, and that the Clerk return to the officers of that institution the thanks of this body.

It was ordered that the various Synodical records be handed in at the opening of the afternoon session, in order that they may be referred to the respective committees.

The Assembly then adjourned till this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday afternoon, 4 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Committee on Commissions reported the following additional Commissioners—viz. James Patterson, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Huntingdon; G. H. Briseoe, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Schuyler; Charles D. Shoemaker, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Luzerne; Rev. Aaron

Williams, from the Presbytery of Arkansas; James M. Ray, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Indianapolis; Rev. Timothy G. Brainerd, from the Presbytery of Londonderry; and J. L. Jernegan, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Lake.

The Judicial Committee reported in part, recommending that the appeals and complaints of the Rev. Dr. Breckinridge and others, Nos. 1 and 2, on the quorum question and the imposition of hands, be returned to the appellants and complainants, for reasons assigned.

Their report was docketed, and made the second order of the day for Monday next.

The unfinished business of the morning was taken up—viz. the report of the Committee on Church Extension—the discussion being on the second resolution; which, after an amendment, was adopted.

The third resolution was also amended and adopted.

The Assembly then adjourned until Monday morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday morning, May 20, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Committee on Commissions reported the following additional Commissioners: Hamilton R. Gamble, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of St. Louis; and P. R. Fleming, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Tuscaloosa.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 1, it being an "Overture from the Synod of New York for a revision of the regulations respecting the reception of foreign ministers." And on motion of the committee it was

Resolved, That no change is called for in the regulations of the Assembly on the subject of foreign ministers.

The same committee also reported Overture No. 3, it being a memorial from the Presbytery of Luzerne, asking permission to withdraw their Overture for the formation of a new Synod, and presenting a petition for the annexation of the Brier Creek Church of the Presbytery of Luzerne to the Presbytery of Northumberland in the Synod of Philadelphia. And on motion of the committee, it was

Resolved, That both the requests embraced in the memorial be granted.

The same committee also reported Overture No. 6, it being a resolution from the Presbytery of Concord, expressing the opinion that the number of members in the General Assembly is too large, and that the interests of the Church would be promoted by a diminution. And on motion of the committee it was

Resolved, That the Presbytery of Concord have leave to withdraw their Overture.

The same committee reported Overture No. 7, it being a memorial from the Presbytery of Clinton on the subject of chaplains in the United States army and navy. And on motion, it was referred to Messrs. Cuyler, Gray, J. R. Johnston, Baker, and Shoemaker.

The same committee reported Overture No. 4, embracing a memorial from the Synod of Cincinnati, and also a memorial from the Synod of West Tennessee, on the subject of the rule adopted by the General Assembly's Board of Education requiring of every beneficiary receiving aid from its funds a course of three years' study; and a communication from the Board of Education on the same subject, recommending a resolution for the adoption of this body.

This report was accepted, and the motion to adopt was discussed until

arrested by the order of the day, which was to hear the report of the Assembly's Board of Education.

This report was read by the Corresponding Secretary, the Rev. M. B. Hope; and on motion,

The report was adopted, and ordered to be printed under the direction of the Board.

The following resolutions were then offered and adopted, viz. :

Resolved, That for the prosperity of our Church, and especially in the great work of church extension, nothing, under God, is more vitally important than a *great* increase of ministers of eminent talents and apostolic spirit.

Resolved, That while the General Assembly feel and proclaim the importance of praying and laboring for an increase of laborers, they do at the same time express their unhesitating belief that men of a high order of talents, character and training are now more needed than mere numbers of inferior men; and they therefore cordially approve the sentiments expressed and the measures adopted by the Board in regard to this subject; and they do most earnestly recommend all the Presbyteries to resist kindly but firmly the recommendation to the Board of unsuitable candidates, and also to discourage the propensity to hasten into the ministry without a full course of preparatory study.

On motion, the following preamble and resolution were adopted, viz. :

Whereas the number of candidates under the care of the Board of Education has greatly increased through the divine blessing; and

Whereas it appears from the annual report of the said Board that only a small portion of our churches, and a still smaller portion of our church members have made contributions in aid of this cause; now, therefore,

Resolved, That in the deliberate judgment of this Assembly it is the privilege of all the members of all our churches to be instructed from the pulpit in regard to the claims of this great cause, and their duty to sustain it regularly and systematically by their prayers and contributions.

It was made the order of the day for to-morrow at 12 o'clock M., to receive reports from the committees on Synodical records.

The Rev. Dr. Hoge, from the committee appointed by the General Assembly of 1843 in relation to the mode of raising funds for the Boards of the Church, offered a report, which was put on the docket.

A letter was read from the Rev. James Romeyn, who had been appointed a delegate to this body by the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church, expressing his regret that, in the providence of God, he had been prevented from attending.

The second order of the day was then taken up, which was the report of the Judicial Committee on the appeals and complaints of the Rev. Dr. Breckinridge and others; when

It was first moved to adopt the report, and after some discussion there was a motion to postpone for a time the motion to adopt, in order to make way for a motion to admit the parties to be heard on the question of jurisdiction. But before the question of postponement was decided the Assembly adjourned until four o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday afternoon, 4 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

A memorial was received from two individuals on the subject of extending an invitation, on communion occasions, to other denominations; which was referred to the Committee of Bills and Overtures.

The unfinished business of the morning was then taken up—viz. the report of the Judicial Committee on the appeals and complaints of the Rev. Dr. Breckinridge and others—the question being on postponing the motion to adopt in order to make way for a motion to admit the parties to be heard on the question of jurisdiction.

After debate the motion to postpone was put and decided in the negative.

The Assembly then adjourned until this evening at eight o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday evening, 8 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and attended to the religious exercises according to the order prescribed, and then adjourned until to-morrow morning at nine o'clock.

Tuesday morning, May 21, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Western Theological Seminary presented their seventeenth annual report, which was read and referred to a committee consisting of Rev. Messrs. Foote, Timlow, and Allison, and Elders Messrs. L. Oatman and P. H. Martin.

The committee on the boundary-line between the Synods of Indiana and Cincinnati presented their report, which was ordered to be placed on the docket.

The committee to nominate delegates to ecclesiastical bodies in correspondence with this Assembly offered their report; which was accepted and approved, and is as follows, viz.:

To the General Association of Connecticut and Massachusetts.—Rev. Dr. Magie, of the Presbytery of Elizabethtown, and Rev. Joshua Phelps, of the Presbytery of Florida.

To the Evangelical Consociation of Rhode Island.—Rev. A. H. Dumont, of the Presbytery of Elizabethtown; alternate, Rev. Hugh Wilson, of the Presbytery of Long Island.

To the General Association of New Hampshire.—Rev. H. Perkins, of the Presbytery of New Brunswick; alternate, Rev. D. M. Halliday, of the Second Presbytery of New York.

To the General Convention of Vermont.—Rev. Reuben Smith, of the Presbytery of Troy; alternate, Rev. Jeremiah Woods, of the Presbytery of Albany.

To the General Conference of Maine.—Rev. Dr. McCartee, of the Presbytery of Hudson; alternate, Rev. John Johnston, of the Presbytery of North River.

To the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church.—Rev. Charles Hodge, D. D., of the Presbytery of New Brunswick; alternate, Rev. Peter O. Studdiford, of the Presbytery of Raritan.

To the General Synod of the German Reformed Church.—Rev. H. A. Boardman, of the Presbytery of Philadelphia; alternate, Rev. C. Van Rensselaer, of the Presbytery of West Jersey.

And on motion, the clerks were directed to make out their commissions.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported on Overture No. 8, referred to them from the Presbytery of Charleston, in relation to the appointment of a day of fasting, humiliation, and prayer, in view of the late visitations of God in calling to their final account a number of men eminent in station and in the councils of our country, recommending the following resolution, which was adopted, viz.:

Resolved, That it is not advisable to act upon the premises set forth in the

Overture, inasmuch as the occasion has already been improved by many of our ministers in the delivery of discourses from their pulpits having special reference to this appalling visitation of God.

The same committee reported on Overture No. 10, from the Presbytery of Columbus, inquiring—

“1st. Is it orderly for a Session under the care of one Presbytery to request a minister of another Presbytery to moderate them, without first obtaining leave from their Presbytery?”

“2d. Is it constitutional for a minister to moderate a Session under the care of a different Presbytery from his own, without first asking and obtaining leave of the Presbytery having jurisdiction over said Session?”

Recommending the following minute, which was adopted, viz.:

Resolved, That the last Assembly in deciding that a Session may invite a minister who is a member of another Presbytery to sit as their Moderator, did not include any of those cases in which it is required either in express terms or by plain implication [Form of Government, ch. ix. sec. iii. and iv.] that the Moderator shall be of the same Presbytery as the congregation, but are of the opinion that in cases of a different kind, for which no provision is made, a member of another Presbytery may be invited to act as Moderator, if it be found to be expedient.

The same committee—on Overture No. 9, it being a memorial from the Presbytery of Richland, and ordered to be brought before the Assembly by the Synod of Ohio, praying for a reform in colleges respecting the use of the Sacred Scriptures, especially in the original languages, or, in case such reform be impracticable or unadvisable, that then the Assembly recommend the establishment of certain new institutions of learning—reported the following minute which was adopted, viz.:

1. *Resolved*, That the memorial relates to matters not under the direct control of this body.

2. *Resolved*, Nevertheless, that this Assembly embrace this opportunity of expressing their heartfelt regret that the Greek Testament has fallen into disuse in some of our seminaries of classical learning, and that we regard the study of the Holy Scriptures in the original languages by the youth of our land as in many respects important, and recommend to all our members, elders, and ministers who have the control of the studies of youth to give due prominence to this branch of learning.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had excused A. L. Adee, M. D., from the remaining sessions of the General Assembly, on account of ill-health.

The thirty-second annual report of the Princeton Theological Seminary was presented, read, and referred to a committee consisting of Rev. Messrs. Waddell, Edwards and Yantis, and Elders Messrs. Mailler and Murray.

The order of the day was then taken up, which was to hear the report of the Board of Foreign Missions.

Printed copies of the report were distributed among the members, accompanied with explanatory remarks from the Corresponding Secretary, Walter Lowrie, Esq.

The following resolution was then offered and adopted, viz.:

Resolved, That the annual report of the Board of Foreign Missions be approved, and referred to the Executive Committee for publication and distribution among the churches as extensively as may be found practicable.

Nominations were made for members of the Board to supply the places of those whose term of office expires at this meeting, and the election was made the second order of the day for to-morrow.

Dr. Plumer submitted the following resolution, which for the present was laid on the table, viz. :

Resolved, That a committee of fifteen be appointed to take into consideration the subject of agencies, and the whole subject of collecting funds for the Board of Foreign Missions.

The order of the day was then taken up—viz. the reports of committees on Synodical record—when the records of the following Synods were approved—viz. New York, Wheeling, Ohio, Indiana, Northern Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Virginia, North Carolina, West Tennessee, South Carolina and Georgia, and Alabama. The records of the Synod of Pittsburgh, with the exception of their having the opening sermon preached after business had commenced, were also approved.

The reports of the committees on the records of the Synods of Philadelphia and Kentucky were retained till after the decision of the Assembly on a question now before them.

The Synods whose records have not been sent up for revision were ordered to have them presented to the Assembly next year.

Nominations were made to fill the vacancies in the Board of Education, and also for Directors of the Western Theological Seminary and of Princeton Theological Seminary; and the elections was made the order of the day for to-morrow, after the other orders shall have been disposed of, and the clerks were directed to have lists of the nominees posted in some convenient portion of the house.

The unfinished business of yesterday—viz. the report of the Judicial Committee on the appeals and complaints of Rev. Dr. Breckinridge and others—was then taken up. And after reading the papers the Assembly adjourned until 4 o'clock this afternoon.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday afternoon, 4 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Judicial Committee in the case of the appeal of Abby Hanna from the decision of the Synod of Wheeling recommended the following order of procedure, which was adopted, viz. :

1. The reading of the sentence of the Session suspending Mrs. Hanna, then the decision of the Presbytery of Washington on Mrs. Hanna's appeal and the decision of the Synod of Wheeling in the case.

2. The reasons of Mrs. Hanna's appeal from the Presbytery of Washington to the Synod of Wheeling.

3. The whole record of proceedings in the Session, the Presbytery, and the Synod, with the testimony and reasons of decision in the case.

4. To hear the original parties.

5. To hear any of the members of the inferior judicatory in explanation of the grounds of their decision or their dissent.

The unfinished business of the morning was resumed—viz. the report of the Judicial Committee in relation to the appeals and complaints of Rev. Dr. Breckinridge and others—and the debate on the question to adopt continued for the remainder of the session, when the Assembly adjourned till to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday morning, May 22, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

An invitation was received from Dr. J. Cobb, dean of the Louisville Medical Institute, for the Assembly to visit that institution at any time that it may suit their convenience. Whereupon it was

Resolved, That the Assembly accept the invitation, and fix the time for 3 o'clock on Saturday afternoon.

On motion it was

Resolved, That the afternoon sessions hereafter commence at three o'clock and continue till six.

The unfinished business of yesterday was resumed—viz. the appeals and complaints of Rev. Dr. Breckinridge and others—when the debate was continued on the motion to adopt the report of the Judicial Committee until it was arrested by the order of the day, which was to hear the report of the Assembly's Board of Missions.

This report was read by the Corresponding Secretary, the Rev. Dr. McDowell, to which he added explanations and remarks.

The following resolutions were then submitted and adopted, viz.:

Resolved, That the report of the Board of Missions be approved by the Assembly, and be returned to the Board for publication, and the Assembly commend this report, with the facts it discloses and the objects and views it presents, to the serious attention of all our Presbyteries, pastors, and churches.

Resolved, That the work of Domestic Missions, having for its object the spread of the gospel and the permanent establishment of sound evangelical churches in all sections of our widely-extended country, is a work of *great magnitude and unspeakable importance*; that this is, in a very special sense, the work of American Christians—a trust committed to the American churches, and for the accomplishment of which Christians of this land will be held responsible by the Head of the Church.

Resolved, That in the judgment of this Assembly the pressing wants of the destitute in this land, and the *constraining love of God our Saviour*, should prompt us as a Church to make greatly increased efforts for carrying forward efficiently the important work of Domestic Missions; and we most earnestly and affectionately appeal to every Presbytery, pastor, and church in our connection to come up with increased zeal and liberality to the aid of this cause.

Nominations were then made to fill vacancies in the Board, and it was made the next order of the day, after the other orders, to elect them.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 13, it being a petition from the churches of Bath, Dunlapville, Brockville, and Mount Carmel, of the Presbytery of Oxford, praying that the boundary-line between the Synods of Indiana and Cincinnati be not altered, as contemplated in an Overture referred to this Assembly from the Assembly of 1843. [See printed *Minutes*, p. 270.] And on motion it was

Ordered, To be docketed that it may be considered in connection with that overture.

The same committee reported Overture No. 12, it being an inquiry whether licentiates of our Church can solemnize marriages where they are authorized to do so by the laws of the State. This overture was also ordered to be placed on the docket.

The same committee reported on Overture No. 14, it being a reference to them of several papers in relation to the Christian Sabbath, which was read and adopted, and is as follows—viz. That the Assembly of 1843 having solemnly affirmed the divine authority of the Christian Sabbath, its perpetual and universal obligation, its important bearing upon all the relations and interests of men, domestic, social, civil, and religious; and said Assembly having enjoined upon all the inferior judicatories to give due attention to the

sanctification of the Sabbath within their own bounds, and to "co-operate in the furtherance of any measure suggested by others that may seem adapted to the promotion of the same throughout the world;" therefore

Resolved, That there is special occasion for this Assembly to re-affirm these sentiments, and that the subject be strongly urged on the consideration of the inferior judicatories and all the members in our communion.

The same committee reported on Overture No. 3, it being a memorial from the Presbytery of Cincinnati asking *this* Assembly to reverse the decision of the *last* respecting the right of ruling elders to impose hands in the ordination of ministers, and respecting the necessity of the presence of ruling elders to constitute a quorum of Presbytery; and on an overture from the Presbytery of Transylvania on a branch of the same subject; and also an overture from the Presbytery of South Alabama respecting an amendment of the Form of Government, so as to provide that ruling elders shall be necessary to a quorum: on these overtures, as relating to similar important *points* in the government of the Church, the committee submitted certain resolutions, which were placed on the docket.

Notice was also given of a minority report to be presented this afternoon.

The Assembly then adjourned until this afternoon at 3 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday afternoon, 3 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The committee to whom was referred the report of the Theological Seminary at Princeton presented their report, recommending that it be approved and printed in the Appendix to the *Minutes*, which was adopted.

The committee on the reference of Clinton Presbytery on the subject of chaplains, offered a report, which was recommitted to the same committee.

Resolved, That the appointment of the place of meeting of the next General Assembly be the order of the day for 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises further reported, recommending that the Assembly unite in celebrating the sacrament of the Lord's Supper on the next Sabbath at 4 o'clock P. M., and that the following be the order of the services, viz.:

1. Reading the Scriptures, psalmody and prayer, by the Rev. Dr. Hoge.
2. The Rev. Dr. Junkin to preside in dispensing the bread.
3. The Rev. Dr. Elliott to preside in dispensing the cup.
4. Prayer, by the Rev. Dr. Potts.
5. Psalmody and Benediction, by the Rev. Mr. Paxton.

Their report was adopted.

The several orders of the day were taken up consecutively, and from the nominations of yesterday to fill vacancies the following persons were elected, viz.:

BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS.

MINISTERS.

George Junkin, D. D.,
J. J. Janeway, D. D.,
A. W. Leland, D. D.,
George W. Janvier,
John Johnston,
Joseph H. Jones, D. D.,
John M. Krebs, D. D.,

LAYMEN.

John Henderson,
Otis Childs,
James M. Ray,
Wm. Melvain,
Benjamin McDowell,
Alexander H. Kerr,
Thomas McKeen,

MINISTERS.

John McDowell, D. D.,
 Joseph McElroy, D. D.,
 Robert McCartee, D. D.,
 John Goldsmith,
 Thos. L. Janeway,
 Nicholas Murray, D. D.,
 Geo. W. Musgrave,
 W. W. Phillips, D. D.

LAYMEN.

George Morris,
 Robert C. Grier,
 Matthew Newkirk,
 J. W. Anderson,
 H. R. Gamble,
 John M. Sherrerd,
 Joseph Patterson,
 Frederick Nash.

BOARD OF EDUCATION.

MINISTERS.

Ashbel Green, D. D.,
 J. H. Gray,
 H. R. Weed, D. D.,
 Joseph McElroy, D. D.,
 George W. Musgrave,
 John Matthews, D. D.,
 Robert Steel,
 W. L. Breckinridge, D. D.,
 John J. White, *vice* Wm. Hadley,
 deceased.

LAYMEN.

Wm. S. Boyd,
 Henry Potter, Esq.,
 Alexander Symington,
 Solomon Allen,
 Gilbert T. Snowden,
 Thomas Henderson,
 Samuel Hepburn, Esq.,
 Col. W. Walter,
 Grigsby E. Thomas.

WESTERN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

MINISTERS.

Robert Johnston,
 William Jeffery,
 C. C. Beatty, D. D.,
 Samuel McFarren,
 Loyal Young,
 Richard Lea,
 H. G. Comingo.

RULING ELDERS.

Harmar Denny,
 Alexander Semple,
 Malcolm Leech (for one year),
 Dr. Henry Hannen, *vice* R. C.
 Grier, resigned,
 Dr. Robert Wray, *vice* S.
 Thompson, deceased.

PRINCETON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

MINISTERS.

Ashbel Green, D. D.,
 J. M. Krebs, D. D.,
 J. J. Janeway, D. D.,
 H. A. Boardman,
 Nicholas Murray, D. D.,
 J. C. Backus,
 W. W. Phillips, D. D.

RULING ELDERS.

James Lenox,
 Moses Allen,
 James N. Dickson.

BOARD OF MISSIONS.

MINISTERS.

Ashbel Green, D. D.,
 A. Alexander, D. D.,
 Gardiner Spring, D. D.,
 W. W. Phillips, D. D.,
 A. T. McGill, D. D.,
 Willis Lord,
 W. D. Snodgrass, D. D.,
 John Johnston,
 G. W. Musgrave,
 Thomas Hoge.

LAYMEN.

Francis Bailey,
 Moses Allen,
 Joseph Patterson,
 G. T. Snowden,
 Alexander Symington,
 William S. Boyd.

The Assembly then unanimously *Resolved*, That they would not at this meeting proceed to the election of Trustees of the General Assembly.

The unfinished business of the morning was then resumed—viz. the report of the Judicial Committee on the appeals and complaints of Rev. Dr. Breckinridge and others; when the debate was continued the remainder of the session.

The Assembly then adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday morning, May 23, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

A communication from a minister and Session in the Presbytery of Erie addressed to the Moderator was read by its title, and referred to the Committee of Bills and Overtures.

An overture from the Presbytery of East Alabama, requesting the Assembly to reconsider its decision on the quorum question, was read and ordered to be filed among the papers of the clerk on the same subject.

The report of the Trustees of Princeton Theological Seminary, and also the report of a special committee to raise funds for that institution, were read, and referred to a committee consisting of Rev. Dr. Maclean, J. C. Edwards, and Andrew Y. Lockridge, and P. A. Walker and R. K. Boyd, ruling elders.

The minority of the Committee of Bills and Overtures on the quorum question and the question of the imposition of hands presented their report, which was read and placed on the docket.

The committee on the subject of chaplains in the United States army and navy offered their report, which was placed on the docket.

The order of the day, which was to designate the place for holding the next meeting of the Assembly, was taken up; when it was

Resolved, That the next General Assembly shall hold its sessions in the First Presbyterian Church in the city of Cincinnati, Ohio.

The report of the Board of Publication was then, in the absence of the Corresponding Secretary, read by the Rev. Dr. Engles, and referred to a committee of three consisting of Drs. Elliott and Potts and Rev. J. P. McMullen.

Nominations were then made for filling the vacancies in the Board, from which the following individuals were elected members, viz.:

MINISTERS.

Ashbel Green, D. D.,
James Hoge, D. D.,
Gardiner Spring, D. D.,
David Elliott, D. D.,
Wm. M. Engles, D. D.,
J. M. Krebs, D. D.,
Jas. Culbertson,
J. Y. Ycomans, D. D.,
J. T. Edgar, D. D.,
A. Tudehope,
J. H. Jones, D. D.,
John Gray,
Robert Morrison, D. D.

LAYMEN.

R. Jaffray,
James Lenox,
A. W. Mitchell, M. D.,
J. B. Mitchell,
Victor King,
Thomas McKeen,
George Morris,
Archibald McIntyre,
Archibald Robertson,
R. Soutter, Jr.,
Micah Baldwin,
H. H. Leavitt,
J. Johnston,
J. Henderson, in the place of
Winthrop Sargent, who has
removed out of the bounds
of the Presbyterian Church.

The unfinished business of yesterday was resumed, it being the report of the Judicial Committee on the appeals and complaints of Rev. Dr. Breckinridge and others, the question being on the motion to adopt. A division being called for on the subject matter of the report between the right to appeal and the right to complain, the Moderator decided that it was susceptible of a division, and that the questions might be put separately to the House.

An appeal was taken from the Chair, in which the Chair was not sustained.

The question then recurring on the motion to adopt the report of the Judicial Committee, and the yeas and nays being called for, it was decided in the affirmative as follows, viz.:

AYES—Ministers.—Brainerd, R. Smith, D. Stewart, J. Wood, J. R. Johnson, J. F. Clark, Teese, Edwards, Spring, Marshall, Ogden, Williamson, B. H. Rice, Maclean, Van Rensselaer, J. Clark, Albert, Williams, Foster, Hunt, Cuyler, Boardman, Backus, McCachren, Murray, J. S. Woods, Waller, Kirkpatrick, Gillett, M. Brown, Elliott, McAbey, Bushnell, Dickson, McCay, Stockton, Scott, Ewing, A. O. Patterson, Hoge, W. D. Smith, Culbertson, Hervey, McCandlish, J. Matthews, Faris, Russell, Stone, Hollyday, Crabb, Scovel, Thompson, Lattimore, Gurlay, Wright, Bouton, Allen, Stebbins, Bennett, Cowles, Potts, D. E. Y. Rice, Hadden, N. L. Rice, McElhenney, Metcalf, Foote, S. B. Wilson, Bocoek, Plumer, Pharr, S. J. P. Anderson, Hines, Lockridge, McMullen, James Woods, Penland, Gilbert, J. Douglas, Ketchum, Petrie, J. S. Wilson, Pielps, Chase, J. H. Gray, D. McNair, Daniel L. Gray, A. Williams, W. S. Rogers.

Elders.—P. Boyd, Baldwin, Price, Cutter, Demun, Welling, Hughes, King, Dunham, Shoemaker, W. S. Boyd, A. W. Mitchell, A. Stephens, Todd, R. G. Young, J. Patterson, Barber, Cunningham, Duncan, Leech, Hannen, Sample, Bowman, Slagle, Morrison, Rankin, Troup, Irwin, Bailey, Hanna, Lyons, Anderson, J. P. Harrison, Andrew, McCullough, Taylor, J. M. Ray, Jernegan, Smick, Gamble, Cayce, Rand, Patrick, Baker, Carter, J. A. Smith, Murray, F. Johnston, Donnell, Martin, Mailler, Strong, Walker, Breford—142.

NAYS—Ministers.—Remington, D. X. Junkin, Spotswood, Timlow, S. Taylor, D. D. McKee, Dobbins, W. W. Robertson, Yantis, Paxton, J. C. Young, N. H. Hall, E. McNair, Allison, Campbell, Gildersleeve, Waddel, Emerson, J. P. McMullen, C. L. K. Boyd, Marshall.

Elders.—Magoffin, Creveling, Donaldson, Francis, B. Junkin, J. Breckenridge, McCampbell, A. B. McKee, King, Mills, Siddall, Briscoe, Singleton, Wilson, McKenzie, Hopkins, Stonestreet, Beatty, J. H. McDowell, Oatman, J. S. Reid, Snowden, D. Stewart, Poelnitz, J. K. Douglass, P. R. Fleming—46.

The report thus adopted is as follows, viz.:

The Judicial Committee having had under consideration No. 1, the appeal and complaint of the Rev. Robert J. Breckinridge, D. D., and others, against a decision of the Synod of Philadelphia on the quorum question, and No. 2, the appeal and complaint of the Rev. R. J. Breckinridge, D. D., and others against a decision of the Synod of Philadelphia on the question of imposition of hands in ordination,

Report, that in their opinion the Form of Government and Discipline of the Presbyterian Church do not authorize the appellants and complainants to bring before the General Assembly either an appeal or complaint in the cases referred to.

While the members of the committee feel constrained, by the Constitution of the Church, to recommend that these papers be returned to the appellants, they feel the less reluctance as they are advised that there are other forms in which the great principles involved will come before this house.

(Signed)

SAMUEL B. WILSON, *Chairman.*

It was made the order of the day for 3 o'clock this afternoon to consider the report of the Committee of Bills and Overtures on the quorum question and on the question of the imposition of hands.

The report of the Committee of Bills and Overtures on the rule of the Board of Education respecting beneficiaries was taken up and discussed for the remainder of the session.

The Assembly then adjourned until this afternoon at 3 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday afternoon, 3 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The order of the day was then taken up—viz. the report of the Committee of Bills and Overtures on the quorum question, etc., when it was first moved to adopt the report, then to postpone that motion in order to take up the report of the minority, and, again, to lay on the table the motion to postpone; which was decided in the affirmative. The question then came up on the motion to adopt; but before it was decided the debate was arrested to give place to a motion from the Committee of Bills and Overtures, making it the order of the day for to-morrow at 10 o'clock for the delegates from the Free Church of Scotland to address the Assembly upon the condition and claims of that Church.

After which the Assembly adjourned till to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday morning, May 24, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence presented their report, which was placed on the docket. A letter prepared by that committee to be addressed to the Synod of Australia was adopted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures reported that a number of memorials have been put into their hands on the subject of slavery, and recommending that the subject be dismissed from their consideration;

Whereupon a minority of the committee submitted a paper expressive of their want of concurrence in the report; and the Rev. Dr. Spring, another paper expressive of his views of the manner in which the subject should be disposed of. And on motion the whole subject, with all the papers in relation to it, was laid upon the table. The yeas and nays being called for, were as follows, viz.:

AYES—Ministers.—J. R. Johnston, J. F. Clark, A. Williamson, B. H. Rice, Albert Williams, Foster, Hunt, Boardman, Spotswood, McCachren, Murray, J. S. Woods, McAboy, Dickson, Ewing, Hoge, Culbertson, Matthews, Taylor, Allen, Stebbins, Potts, D. E. Y. Rice, Yantis, Paxton, Hadden, J. C. Young, Hall, N. L. Rice, McElhenney, Metcalf, Foote, S. B. Wilson, Bocoek, Plumer, Pharr, Anderson, Hines, E. McNair, Lockridge, R. B. McMullen, Woods, Allison, Penland, Campbell, Gilbert, Douglas, Ketchum, Gildersleeve, Petrie, J. S. Wilson, Phelps, Waddel, Emerson, J. P. McMullen, C. L. R. Boyd, Marshall, Chase, J. H. Gray, D. McNair, D. L. Gray, Aaron Williams.

Elders.—T. Price, Cutter, Demun, Welling, King, Dunham, Shoemaker, M. S. Boyd, A. W. Mitchell, Todd, Patterson, Barber, Leech, Semple, Bowman, Rankin, Troup, Bailey, Lyons, Breckenridge, McCampbell, Wills, Briscoe, Smick, Gamble, Cayce, Singleton, Wilson, McKenzie, Hopkins, Stone-street, Read, Patriek, Baker, Carter, J. A. Smith, Murray, Johnston, Donnell,

Beatty, McDowell, Oatman, Martin, Mailler, Reid, Douglass, Snowden, D. Stewart, Poellnitz, Fleming, Strong, Walker, Breford—115.

NAYS—Ministers.—Brainerd, R. Smith, Daniel Stewart, J. Wood, Remington, Teese, Edwards, Spring, Wm. Marshall, Ogden, Maclean, Van Rensselaer, D. X. Junkin, James Clark, Cuyler, Timlow, Backus, Waller, Kirkpatrick, Gillett, Brown, Elliott, Bushnell, McCay, Stockton, J. W. Scott, A. O. Patterson, W. D. Smith, Hervey, McCandlish, Russell, Stone, Hollyday, Crabb, Thompson, Lattimore, Gurley, Wright, Boutou, D. D. McKee, Bennett, Dobbins, Cowles, W. W. Robertson, Rogers.

Elders.—Magoffin, Boyd, Baldwin, Hughes, Crevling, A. Stephens, Donaldson, Robert G. Young, John Cunningham, Barber, Hannen, Francis, B. Junkin, Slagle, Morrison, Irwin, Cook, Hanna, J. Anderson, Andrew, McCullough, Taylor, A. B. McKee, King, Ray, Jernegan—70.

J. K. Duncan, *non liquet*.

Mr. Wells Bushnell, and two others gave notice that they would protest against this decision of the General Assembly.

The order of the day, which was to hear the delegation from the Free Church of Scotland, was taken up; when another delegate, the Rev. Wm. Chalmers, was introduced to the Moderator, and through him to the Assembly.

Addresses were then delivered by the Rev. Messrs. Lewis and Chalmers on the contest of the Free Church of Scotland for the rights of the people and of the office-bearers in the house of God, and the sufferings which had befallen them on that account.

When their interesting addresses were concluded, it was on motion,

Resolved, That the thanks of the Assembly be returned to the brethren of the Scottish delegation, and that the object of their mission be referred to the Rev. Messrs. Spring, Marshall, and Young,

The delegation also presented to the Assembly a fac-simile of the Protest which was laid upon the Moderator's table when they withdrew from the Establishment; and also a fac-simile of the Act of Separation and Demission, with a number of copies of the minutes of their first Assembly; which were duly acknowledged.

The charter of the Western Theological Seminary was presented to the Assembly by Dr. Elliott, and on motion it was referred to a committee consisting of Messrs. Gamble, Stonestreet, Jernegan, and Elliott.

The Assembly then adjourned until this afternoon, at half-past 3 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday afternoon, 3½ o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave to the Rev. S. C. McConnell, Robert Purdy, and William P. Boyd.

The Committee on Mileage reported that there had been paid to the Treasurer on account of the Commissioners' Fund the sum of \$203.90; that there have been twelve thousand eight hundred and fifty-four miles traveled by the Commissioners who claim mileage in coming to the present Assembly, which at one cent five and three-quarter mills per mile will make \$202.45, leaving a balance of \$1.45; and therefore recommended that the Trustees of the General Assembly be directed to draw an order on their Treasurer for this amount, and that they be directed to pay the same to the several persons named in their report, in the proportion therein stated. Their report was accepted and adopted.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Cineinnati reported, recommending that they be approved, and their report was adopted.

The unfinished business of yesterday afternoon was taken up, it being the report of the Committee of Bills and Overtures on the quorum question, etc., which was discussed for the remainder of the session.

The Assembly then adjourned till to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.
Concluded with prayer.

Saturday morning, May 25, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported on Overture No. —, it being a petition from the church of Clarksville, of the Presbytery of Nashville and Synod of West Tennessee, praying that they may be annexed to the Presbytery of Muhlenburg, in the Synod of Kentucky, and other papers in relation to this subject; recommending that the request of the church of Clarksville be not granted, and that that church retain their present connection. The report was adopted.

The committee on the report of the Board of Publication offered their report, which was placed on the docket.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave to Charles E. Mills, Alex. Ewing, John Siddall, J. P. Harrison, A. P. Andrew, J. L. Jarnegan, and to C. D. Shoemaker, after to-day.

The Rev. Thomas P. Hunt, of the Presbytery of Luzerne, stated to the Assembly that owing to peculiar circumstances he, as alternate, had taken his seat as a member of this House, and that he wished to resign it to the Rev. John Dorrance, the principal named in the commission. And on motion, it was

Resolved, That in view of the peculiar circumstances of the case, which were stated at large by Mr. Hunt, this request be granted, and that Mr. Dorrance's name be inserted on the roll in the place of Mr. Hunt's.

The unfinished business of yesterday was taken up, it being the report of the Committee of Bills and Overtures on the quorum question, etc., which was discussed for the remainder of the session.

The Assembly adjourned until this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday afternoon, 4 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The committee to whom was referred the act of the Legislature of the State of Pennsylvania incorporating the Trustees of the Western Theological Seminary reported that the *eleventh* section of the proposed charter reserves to the legislature the right at any time hereafter to construe, alter, amend, or repeal all or any of the provisions of that act, and makes no provision for any disposition of the corporate property upon such repeal of the charter. The committee regard this reservation of the right to alter or repeal the charter, when unaccompanied with any provision for the transfer of the title to the corporate property, as possibly endangering the security of the property and funds designed for the support of the Seminary. They therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution, viz.:

Resolved, That the General Assembly respectfully decline for the present to accept the act of incorporation of the legislature of Pennsylvania, entitled "An act to incorporate the Trustees of the Western Theological Seminary of the Presbyterian Church of the United States of America, at the city of Allegheny, in the State of Pennsylvania," and that the said act be referred to the Board of Directors to procure, if practicable, a repeal of said *eleventh* section of said act.

The report was accepted and adopted.

The Committee on Finance presented their report, which was read and adopted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix.

The unfinished business of the morning was taken up, it being the report of the Committee of Bills and Overtures on the quorum question, etc. which was discussed for the remainder of the session.

The Assembly then adjourned until Monday morning, at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday morning, May 27, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

On motion, it was unanimously

Resolved, That the thanks of the Assembly be returned to the Rev. Henry A. Boardman for his sermon on the "Intolerance of the Church of Rome," and that he be requested to furnish a copy of it to the Board of Publication.

Resolved, That the Rev. N. L. Rice be appointed to preach during the meeting of the next General Assembly on the doctrine of "Justification as denied and perverted by the Church of Rome," and that the Rev. Dr. John N. Campbell, of Albany, N. Y., be his alternate.

The report of the Committee of Bills and Overtures on Overture No. 13, it being in relation to the boundary-line between the Synods of Cincinnati and Indiana, was taken up, when so much of it was adopted as makes the boundary-line between the States of Ohio and Indiana the boundary-line between the two Synods.

The further consideration of the report was then deferred, in order to take up the unfinished business of Saturday—viz. the report of the Committee of Bills and Overtures on the quorum question, etc. The discussion was continued and closed. A division of the question being called for, and the yeas and nays ordered, the first resolution of the report, which relates to the imposition of the hands of elders in the ordination of a minister, was adopted, and is as follows, viz.:

1. *Resolved*, That in the opinion of this Assembly, the last Assembly in determining that ruling elders are not authorized by the Form of Government to impose hands in the ordination of ministers, did not depreciate the office of ruling elder, nor did they in any respect contravene the letter or the spirit of the Constitution or the principles and practice of Presbyterian churches in Europe or America since the Reformation; but, in conformity with both the principles and practice of our own and other Presbyterian churches, they did decide that, as the rite of ordination is simply a declaratory ministerial act, the laying on of hands as a part thereof belongs properly to ordained ministers, while to ruling elders is left unimpaired and unquestioned the full and rightful power of ordering the work of ordination, and of judging in the discipline of ministers in common with those Presbyters who labor in word and doctrine as in all other cases.

AYES—*Ministers*.—Brainerd, R. Smith, Stewart, J. Wood, Remington, Johnson, J. F. Clark, Teese, Edwards, Wm. Marshall, Ogden, Williamson, B. H. Rice, Maclean, Van Rensselaer, D. X. Junkin, James Clark, Albert Williams, Foster, Dorrance, Cuyler, Boardman, Spotswood, Timlow, Backus, McCachren, Murray, J. S. Woods, Waller, Kirkpatrick, Gillett, Brown, Elliott, MeAboy, Bushnell, Dickson, McCay, Stockton, Scott, Patterson, Hoge, W. D. Smith, Culbertson, Hervey, McCandlish, Matthews, Faris, Russell, Stone, Hollyday, Crabb, Seovel, C. K. Thompson, Lattimore, Gurley, Bouton, Allen, D. D. McKee, Stebbins, Bennett, Cowles, Potts, D. E. Y. Rice, Yantis, Hadden, N. L. Rice, McElhenney, Metcalf, Foote, S. B. Wilson, Bocoek, Plumer, Pharr, Anderson, Hines, Lockridge, R. B. McMullen, James Woods,

Allison, Penland, J. Douglass, Ketchum, Gildersleeve, Petrie, J. S. Wilson, Phelps, Waddel, Boyd, Chase, J. H. Gray, D. McNair, D. L. Gray, Aaron Williams, Rogers.

Elders.—Magoffin, P. Boyd, Baldwin, Price, Cutter, Demun, Welling, Hughes, Crevling, King, Dunham, Shoemaker, W. S. Boyd, Mitchell, Stephens, Donaldson, Todd, Young, Patterson, Cunningham, Duncan, Leech, Hannen, Sample, Francis, Bowman, B. Junkin, Slagle, Morrison, Rankin, Troup, Irwin, Bailey, Cook, Hanna, Lyons, Breckenridge, Anderson, McCullough, Taylor, Wills, Ray, Jernegan, Cayce, McKenzie, Rand, Patrick, Baker, Carter, J. A. Smith, Murray, Johnston, Donnell, J. H. McDowell, Oatman, Martin, Mailler, David Stewart, Walker, Breford—154.

NAYS—Ministers.—Taylor, Dobbins, W. W. Robertson, Paxton, Young, Hall, E. McNair, Campbell, Gibert, Emerson, J. P. McMullen, S. V. Marshall.

Elders.—McC Campbell, A. B. McKee, Victor King, Briscoe, S. Wilson, Hopkins, Stonestreet, Beatty, J. S. Reid, Douglass, Snowden, Poellnitz, Fleming—25.

The second resolution, which relates to the quorum of a Presbytery, was adopted, and is as follows, viz.:

2. *Resolved*, That the last Assembly, in determining that three ministers are a quorum of the Presbytery when no ruling elders are present, did not detract in any degree from the dignity and importance of this office, nor did they question the perfect right or duty of elders to be present and take part in all acts of government and discipline; but only declared that, according to the true intent and meaning of our constitutional rules, their absence does not prevent the Presbytery from constituting and transacting business if three ministers are present; and this decision is based upon the fact that ministers are not only preachers of the gospel and administrators of sealing ordinances, but also ruling elders in the very nature of their office.

AYES—Ministers.—Brainerd, R. Smith, D. Stewart, Jeremiah Wood, Remington, J. R. Johnston, J. F. Clark, Teese, Edwards, Wm. Marshall, Ogden, Williamson, B. H. Rice, Maclean, Van Rensselaer, James Clark, Albert Williams, Foster, Dorrance, Cuyler, Boardman, Backus, McCahren, Murray, J. S. Woods, Waller, Kirkpatrick, Gillett, Brown, Elliott, McAboy, Bushnell, Dickson, McCay, Stockton, Scott, Patterson, Hoge, W. D. Smith, Culbertson, Hervey, McCandlish, Matthew, Faris, Russell, Stone, Hollyday, Crabb, Scovel, Gurley, C. K. Thompson, Bouton, Allen, D. D. McKee, Stebbins, Cowles, Potts, D. E. Y. Rice, Hadden, N. L. Rice, McElhenney, Metcalf, Foote, S. B. Wilson, Bocoek, Plumer, Pharr, Anderson, Lockridge, R. B. McMullen, James Wood, Allison, Penland, Ketchum, Gildersleeve, Petrie, J. S. Wilson, Phelps, Waddel, S. V. Marshall, Chase, J. H. Gray, D. McNair, D. L. Gray, Aaron Williams, Rogers.

Elders.—Magoffin, P. Boyd, Rice, Cutter, Demun, Welling, Hughes, King, Dunham, Shoemaker, W. S. Boyd, Mitchell, Stephens, Todd, R. S. Young, Cunningham, Duncan, Leech, Hannen, Sample, Bowman, Slagle, Morrison, Rankin, Troup, Irwin, Bailey, Cook, Hanna, Lyons, Anderson, McCullough, Taylor, Ray, Jernegan, Cayce, Rand, Patrick, Baker, Carter, J. A. Smith, Murray, Johnston, Donnell, Martin, Mailler, Walker, Breford—134.

NAYS—Ministers.—D. X. Junkin, Spotswood, Timlow, Lattimore, Taylor, Bennett, Dobbins, Robertson, Yantis, Paxton, Young, Hall, Hines, E. McNair, Campbell, Gilbert, J. Douglass, Emerson, J. P. McMullen, C. L. R. Boyd.

Elders.—Baldwin, Crevling, Donaldson, Patterson, Francis, B. Junkin, Breckenridge, McC Campbell, A. B. McKee, Victor King, Wills, Briscoe, S. Wilson, McKenzie, Hopkins, Stonestreet, Beatty, McDowell, Oatman, Reid, Douglas, Snowden, David Stewart, Poellnitz, Fleming—45.

The third resolution was decided in the affirmative without a count, and is as follows :

3. *Resolved*, That this Assembly, in reaffirming these decisions of the last Assembly which have been called in question, design to maintain the purity, order, and peace of the Church, and the continued and faithful observance of those principles and regulations which have heretofore been found to consist with true Christian liberty and secure the common welfare of all classes in the Church. Also, they reaffirm and maintain the scriptural authority of the office of ruling elder, and the great importance and solemn obligation of the attendance of elders on the meetings of the judicatories of the Church, and of their equal participation in the exercise of government and discipline.

A fourth resolution was then offered to be appended to the report of the Committee of Bills and Overtures, which was laid on the table.

The Assembly then adjourned until this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday afternoon, 4 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read, amended and approved.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Kentucky presented their report, recommending their approval to page 38, with the exception of two minutes on pages 25 and 30, in which the Synod express views different from those held by this Assembly on the questions of a quorum of Presbytery and on the right of ruling elders to impose hands in the ordination of ministers ; to which decisions the Assembly would refer the Synod.

Mr. Bushnell and others offered a protest, according to notice given, against the decision of the Assembly in laying the whole subject of slavery, and all the papers in relation to it, on the table ; which was referred to Messrs. Plumer, B. H. Rice, and S. V. Marshall.

The House having been informed that Dr. Spring, chairman of the committee on the subject of the Free Church of Scotland, had returned home, on motion, Messrs. Chase, Penland, and Hall were added to the committee.

The unfinished business in relation to church extension was then taken up, and the remainder of the resolutions were amended and adopted. The question then coming up on adopting it as a whole, it was discussed for the remainder of the session.

The Assembly then adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday morning, May 28, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave to Gardiner Spring, D. D., Aaron Williams, R. H. Breford, E. W. Wright, A. C. Allen, James Smick, Daniel Wills, and Charles A. Poellnitz ; and their report was accepted.

On motion, it was made the order of the day for to-morrow evening at eight o'clock to hear the Rev. Mr. Pinney on the subject of his agency for the Pennsylvania Colonization Society.

The Committee of Bills and Overtures reported on Overture No. 16, it being in relation to the legacy left to the Presbyterian Church by the late Wm. Brown of Green county, Tennessee ; and on motion, the overture with the letter enclosing it was referred to the Board of Trustees of the General Assembly, with full power to act in the premises as they may judge expedient.

The same committee reported Overture No. 17, it being on uniformity in church music; which, on motion, was placed on the docket.

On motion, the report of the Judicial Committee in the case of Abby Hanna was taken up, when the Moderator announced that the body was about to pass to the consideration of the business assigned for trial, and enjoined on the members to recollect and regard their high character as judges of a court of Jesus Christ, and the solemn duty in which they were about to act.

Mr. Patterson was appointed to manage the case for Mrs. Hanna.

The papers were read in the order prescribed by the committee. And after the original parties and the courts below were fully heard, the roll was called, to give each member of the Assembly the opportunity of expressing his views on the case, when on motion it was

Resolved, That the decision of the courts below in the case of Abby Hanna, the Synod of Wheeling, be affirmed, and that the appeal be, and it is hereby, dismissed.

The unfinished business of yesterday, it being the report of the Committee on Church Extension, was taken up, the question being on the motion to adopt it as a whole. A reference of the subject was then moved to the next General Assembly; but before the question was taken,

The Assembly adjourned until this afternoon at half-past 3 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday afternoon, half-past 3 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave to Messrs. Jernegan, Penland, McCaehren, Gamble, Magoffin, Mailler, W. W. Robertson, Campbell, Yantis, J. Patterson, J. A. Murray, J. K. Douglass, Boeock, Dunham, James Wood, Emerson, and Timlow.

The report of the committee appointed by the Assembly of 1843 respecting the marriage question was submitted and read; and on motion it was for the present laid on the table in order to take up the unfinished business of the morning, it being the report of the Committee on Church Extension, the question being on referring it to the next General Assembly.

After discussion, the previous question having been called for and sustained, the main question came up on the motion to adopt the report, which was decided in the affirmative; it is as follows, viz.:

The committee to whom was referred by the General Assembly of 1843 the overture respecting the erection of churches in feeble congregations by the aid of their brethren who may be able and willing to contribute for this purpose, have considered the subject with attention, and present the following report as the result of their deliberations:

The maintenance of evangelical truth and practical piety is the primary duty of the Church of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; and next to this, and inseparably connected with it, is the great work of extending this divine religion until it shall fill the whole earth. For this purpose it is necessary to plant churches wherever they do not exist, and thus to secure the administration of the word and ordinance of Jesus Christ.

In fulfilling this part of her duty the Presbyterian Church in this land has acted rightly in sending forth the ministers of the gospel to preach, to gather and organize churches, and to nourish them with spiritual food, that they may grow up to maturity and abound in the works of faith and the labors of love. This, indeed, is indispensably necessary, and ought to engage the first and chief efforts of the Church; yet it is certain that in a subordinate

but very important sense the erection of suitable houses for divine worship is necessary. The former has been accomplished to some extent by our portion of the Church catholic in her associated capacity; the latter has been generally left to the unaided efforts of congregations when gathered, however weak they may be. That each society should, if able, erect its own house of worship is altogether proper, even as it is right that the minister should be supported by those to whom he ministers, and it should never be regarded as a burden by any, although effort and self-denial should be required in order to effect either object. But as it has been determined that the united ability of the Church ought to be employed in sending the minister to preach the gospel to the destitute and in aiding weak congregations in sustaining their pastor, is it not equally proper to aid those who need help in building suitable houses for public worship? We think that this is proper for several reasons:

1. A church of adequate size and respectable appearance is of great importance to every congregation. The want of such accommodation produces indifference and discouragement in those who are connected with the congregations, and has a repulsive influence on others.

2. There are many places in which the members and friends of the Presbyterian Church are too few and poor to build such houses as would accommodate themselves and that portion of the people in the vicinity who might be induced to attend on the ordinances of the gospel, but as yet are disposed to give little or no pecuniary aid. In these circumstances our feeble churches are discouraged, and do not attempt to build a house, or they build one which is insufficient and unattractive, or they become involved in debt which they are unable to discharge. Several hundred instances of one or other of these cases may be found. How important would assistance be to a congregation in such circumstances!

3. Many unsuitable churches are erected and much money is wasted, it is confidently believed, for want of necessary information. If well-digested plans and estimates could be procured at once with little or no expense, proportionate to the number of members of the congregation and other circumstances, and accompanied by advice respecting the construction and arrangement and finishing of the building both externally and internally, it would be an advantage equal in very many cases to a considerable pecuniary aid.

We may *next* inquire whether the members of our Church would probably be willing to add this to their other schemes for the promotion of the cause of the Redeemer. This inquiry we may safely answer in the affirmative. Although we as a Church fail greatly to contribute as we ought of that worldly substance which the Lord has entrusted to us for religious purposes, yet we may on good grounds believe that not a few of our people would gladly throw their benevolent offerings into this channel of beneficence if a well-arranged plan were presented to them. They are now frequently and urgently solicited to give for church-building or for the payment of debt already contracted in cases of which they know little or nothing, and can have no assurance that their donations will be well applied. Considerable sums are collected in this way every year, and it may be reasonably concluded that much more would be willingly given on some well-digested system of operation.

And in what way may the collection and application of money for this purpose be most easily and safely carried into effect?

The General Assembly has adopted, with the general approbation of the Church, the policy of a special Board for each particular object that is designed; and this may be done in the present instance, or, if not now, yet at a future time if it shall appear to be expedient. But at this time it may be

sufficient to commit the management of this work to the Board of Missions; thus all needed information will be collected, and in the light of experience a future Assembly will mature a different plan of operation if it shall appear that a change is expedient. For referring this business to the Board of Missions the following reasons may be deemed sufficient:

1. It is in its nature intimately connected with the domestic missionary work.
2. In its present stage it can be transacted by them with less time and expense than by a separate organization.
3. The Board already possesses, or can readily procure, such information as may be needed.

The committee therefore recommend to the consideration of the General Assembly, the following plan:

I. It is expedient and highly important to promote the extension of the Presbyterian Church in this nation by aiding systematically in the erection of churches wherever they are needed.

II. The direction and oversight of this work shall be committed, until otherwise ordered, to the Board of Missions, who shall, in the management of it, be subject in all respects to the directions of the General Assembly, and shall annually report to the Assembly their execution of this trust.

III. The Board shall annually appoint a committee on church extension, consisting of five persons, who shall have charge of appropriating the moneys which may be received for this purpose, and of procuring and furnishing at cost or gratuitously plans and estimates for churches in answer to applications which may be made to them.

IV. The Board shall also make regulations for the government of the committee in receiving applications for aid, raising funds, and making appropriations of money, shall examine the proceedings of the committee, and shall appoint such officers or agents as the General Assembly shall direct.

V. It is distinctly recommended to all our congregations to make a collection for this purpose once in each year, and transmit the amount directly, or through their Presbyteries respectively, to the Treasurer of the Board of Missions.

VI. It is recommended to all the Presbyteries to take such order on this subject as they may deem best, and that they appoint a committee on church extension at each autumnal meeting of the Presbytery; and applications for aid in building shall be received and acted on by the Board through this committee, and with their explicit recommendation.

On that part of the overture referred to them which proposes that licentiates shall be *required* to serve as missionaries for some definite time, the committee respectfully say that in their opinion, however desirable and profitable such service might be, such a rule would interfere with the rights of licentiates and of Presbyteries in a manner which is not consistent with the constitution of the Church or with the powers and duties of the Board of Missions, and therefore ought not to be adopted.

In behalf of the committee,

JAMES HOGE, *Chairman*.

The following additional resolution was also proposed by Dr. Hoge, and adopted, viz.:

Resolved, That while it will be proper that the Board of Missions receive and appropriate, during the present year, any moneys which may be contributed for church extension, they are requested specially to collect all the information they may be able to obtain, and report fully on the whole subject to the next General Assembly, with a view to further maturing and perfecting the plan of operation.

The Committee on the Narrative offered their report, which was accepted and adopted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix.

The Assembly then adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.
Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday morning, May 29, 9 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

A protest against the decision of the Assembly on the question of imposition of hands was presented, read, and referred to a committee consisting of Dr. Hoge, Dr. Maclean, and the Rev. Mr. Gurley.

Another protest against the decision of the Assembly in their refusing to hear and issue the appeals and complaints of the Rev. Dr. Breckinridge and others against the Synod of Philadelphia was presented and read, and referred to a committee consisting of Dr. Elliott, N. L. Rice, and Isaac W. Waddel.

A still further protest against the decision of the Assembly on the quorum question was presented, read, and referred to the committee appointed to report on the protest relating to the imposition of hands.

The unfinished business was then taken up, it being the resolution reported by the Committee of Bills and Overtures in relation to the pledge exacted of beneficiaries by the Board of Education, requiring them to pursue a three years' course of study.

And on motion, a substitute was offered, which after discussion was adopted, and is as follows, viz.:

Resolved, That the General Assembly are deeply impressed with the importance of a thorough course of theological study, and would earnestly recommend to their Presbyteries to elevate the standard of education, and that the rule of the Board of Education does not conflict with the Constitution when it prescribes the term of study, inasmuch as the Constitution makes two years the shortest time allowed to complete the course of theological study, but does not prescribe the maximum.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Messrs. J. W. Alexander, S. B. Wilson, Hoge, Young, Boardman, and Monfort be a committee to consider the expediency of establishing Presbyterian parochial schools, and to report on the whole subject at the next meeting of the General Assembly.

The committee to whom was referred the protest of W. Bushnell and others in relation to the action of the Assembly on certain petitions respecting the abolition of slavery, reported, recommending the adoption of the following minute:

The General Assembly, recognizing the right of inferior judicatories and private members, *upon their own responsibility*, to memorialize this body on any subject which they may regard as connected with the interests of the Church, and finding no fault with the language of the protest, admit it to record without further notice.

The report was accepted and adopted.

The protest is as follows, viz.:

The undersigned, members of the General Assembly, feel constrained to enter their solemn protest against the action of the Assembly by which the reports of a majority and minority of the Committee of Bills and Overtures on the subject of slavery, to whom various memorials on that subject had been committed, were laid on the table, and the whole subject dismissed from the further consideration of this body, for the following reasons, viz.:

1. Because this action virtually denies and destroys the right of petition, which we regard as an inalienable sacred right.

2. Because the character and number of the memorialists entitle them to a more respectful consideration by this Assembly, one memorial being from a Presbytery in our connection, and nineteen others from various places, signed by eight ministers, about fifty elders, and about one thousand private members in full communion in our denomination.

3. Because the subject-matter of the memorials—viz. slavery—is not only a political, but also a great moral question, which is extensively agitated at the present day, in which both the Church and the world are beginning to take a deep and still deeper interest, and in regard to which many of the people in our communion anxiously desire to understand their duty. And

4. Because this action of the Assembly is clearly inconsistent with the testimony of the General Assembly of 1818 on this subject, which has never been repealed, as the memorialists are doing nothing more than they are exhorted in that testimony to do. That Assembly declared slavery to be “a gross violation of the most precious and sacred rights of human nature, utterly inconsistent with the law of God, and totally irreconcilable with the spirit and principles of the gospel of Christ;” and also declared it to be “manifestly the duty of all Christians to use their honest, earnest, and unwearied endeavors to efface this blot on our holy religion, and to obtain the complete abolition of slavery throughout Christendom, and if possible throughout the world.” (Signed)

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.
WELLS BUSHNELL,	JOHN HANNEN,
J. M. STONE,	WM. M. FRANCIS.
WM. McCANDLISH,	
ROBERT B. DOBBINS,	
W. S. ROGERS.	

The unfinished business was taken up, it being the report of the Committee of Bills and Overtures on Overture No. 4, in relation to the boundary-line between the Synods of Cincinnati, Indiana, and Northern Indiana; when it was

Resolved, That the boundary-line between the Synods of Indiana and Cincinnati remain unchanged.

The committee on the report of the Board of Publication reported, recommending the adoption of the following resolutions, viz. :

1. That the report of the Board be approved and be circulated.

2. That the Assembly approve of the judgment and fidelity with which the Board has fulfilled its trust during the past year.

3. That the Board be authorized and requested to present a set of their publications to each of the theological seminaries under the care of this Assembly or any of its Synods.

In reference to the will of the late Mr. Brand the committee recommend :

1. That the Board be directed, if it be found expedient, to transfer the right they have under the will of the late Benjamin Brand of Richmond, Va., to the Board of Trustees of the General Assembly.

2. That the Trustees of the General Assembly be authorized and directed to adopt all such measures for the recovery of the property devised to the Rev. William S. Plumer, D. D., in trust for the Board of Publication, as the Board shall be advised by counsel to be necessary or expedient for the more convenient prosecution of the claim.

3. In regard to the publication of the entire *Minutes* of the General Assembly, the Presbyteries are hereby requested to take measures for so increasing the subscription to this important work that the Board may be enabled to publish it at an early day.

4. That it be recommended to the Board to establish depositories of their publications at such important points as they may deem proper, provided such depositories can be sustained without expense to the Board.

This report was adopted.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence was, on motion, taken up, when the following resolutions were adopted :

1. *Resolved*, That the delegates appointed to represent the Presbyterian Church in the German Reformed and Dutch Reformed churches be authorized to take a seat in the proposed convention to meet at Harrisburg, if they shall be so invited.

2. *Resolved*, That our Stated Clerk be directed to transmit duplicate copies of the *Minutes* of the Assembly from 1839 to 1844, inclusive, to the Presbyterian Synod in Australia.

3. *Resolved*, That a copy of the volume of *Minutes* of the original Presbytery and Synods of our Church, published by the Board of Publication, be presented to the Synods respectively of the German Reformed and Reformed Dutch churches.

The report of the Committee of Bills and Overtures on Overture No. 12, it being an inquiry submitted to them whether licentiates of our Church can solemnize marriages where they are authorized to do so by the laws of the States, was taken up, when it was

Resolved, That while our Form of Government does not recognize licentiates as ministers of the gospel, yet this Assembly do not consider them as violating any rules of the Church by solemnizing marriages in those States where the civil laws expressly authorize them to do it.

The report of the Committee of Bills and Overtures with respect to chaplaincies was taken up ; and, on motion, it was indefinitely postponed.

The Assembly then adjourned until this afternoon at 3½ o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday afternoon, 3½ o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The committee to whom was referred the report of the Trustees of the Theological Seminary at Princeton reported, and their report was adopted, and is as follows :

The committee to whom were referred the nineteenth annual report of the Trustees of the Theological Seminary at Princeton, and the report of the special committee appointed to raise the sum of \$4766.20 to supply the deficiency in the funds necessary for the payment of the salaries of the professors, etc., respectfully recommend that both reports be approved, and that they be printed in the Appendix to the *Minutes*.

From the report of the special committee it appears that their receipts did not reach the amount proposed to be raised by the sum of \$400.54, and that the deficiency for the ensuing year will be nearly as great as for the present year.

Your committee would therefore recommend that the special committee, consisting of the Rev. Dr. John McDowell, Rev. H. A. Boardman, Rev. Dr. J. H. Jones, and Messrs. Matthew Newkirk and James N. Dickson, be continued, with power to adopt such measures as they may deem best to make good both the existing and the anticipated deficiencies in funds necessary for the payment of the salaries of professors and for the payment of five per cent. on the scholarships' and students' fund and permanent missionary fund.

Your committee further recommend that warrants issue in favor of the several professors to the amount of their salaries as they shall become due.

The committee to whom the subject of the Free Church of Scotland was referred presented their report, which was accepted and adopted, and is as follows, viz.:

The General Assembly has heard with the warmest interest the eloquent addresses of the reverend brethren Lewis and Chalmers relative to the recent movements of the Free Church of Scotland with a view to preserve her spiritual purity and independence.

By the sacrifices she has already made in her relinquishment of every temporal advantage conferred upon her by the civil power, and by her noble resolution, in reliance on the divine grace and providence, to encounter all the difficulties which may impede her in the prosecution of the work to which God has called her, the Free Church of Scotland has borne a most noble testimony in favor of her devotion to all that is sacred in the rights of conscience and precious in the principles and privileges of the gospel, of her deep conviction of the superior importance of the approbation of her Lord and Master over the favor of earthly princes and nobles, and of the treasures of his grace to the treasures of the world.

By this truly manly and Christian course this Church has acquired a just and strong claim upon the admiration and sympathy of all evangelical Christians, and has set before the world a noble example of integrity and self-denial. The conduct of our fathers and brethren, as well as of the people under their care, recalls forcibly to our recollection the glorious struggles of the Church of Scotland in days gone by, when she stood for years against the fierce and persevering assaults of a bigoted hierarchy and tyrannical monarchy, *taking joyfully the spoiling of her goods and resisting even unto blood*, that she might transmit to posterity unimpaired the spiritual liberty *wherewith Christ had made her free*.

While we rejoice to recognize in her present struggles the same principles and the same spirit which animated our Presbyterian forefathers in Scotland, and made the history of their persecutions and endurance so interesting and glorious, we cannot refrain from expressing our gratitude to Almighty God both that the present sons of the Church of Scotland show themselves worthy of their pious and honored ancestors, and that, by the blessing of God, the principles of civil and religious liberty have been so far established as to prevent ungodly men inflicting on those who now contend for spiritual freedom the same extremities of sufferings which were endured by its defenders in former days; therefore

Resolved, 1. That this General Assembly express, in behalf of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, her deep sympathy with our brethren of the Free Church of Scotland in the sacrifices they have been called to make and the trials they have yet to endure in defence of their spiritual liberties.

Resolved, 2. That we hail the present movement of the Free Church of Scotland as an evident token from God of good to his people everywhere, and we would render to him, as the Giver of all grace, our sincere thanks and praises for the spirit of boldness, self-sacrifice, and devotion to his holy cause manifested by our brethren during their recent struggle and present difficulties.

Resolved, 3. That we cordially recommend the Free Church of Scotland in all her interests and trials to the sympathies and prayers of all the churches under our care.

Resolved, 4. That we recommend to all those ministers, elders, and churches under our care who have not yet assisted these suffering brethren to solicit contributions in behalf of the Free Church of Scotland.

Resolved, 5. That this Assembly propose to the General Assembly of the

Free Church of Scotland to open a friendly correspondence by the mutual interchange of Commissioners to attend each other's sessions, at such times as may be deemed most suitable.

Resolved, 6. That the thanks of this Assembly be tendered to Brethren Lewis and Chalmers for the deeply interesting intelligence communicated to us by them in relation to the affairs of the Free Church of Scotland.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they have given leave to Messrs. Slagle, W. Taylor, R. S. Boyd, J. K. Duncan, J. H. Gray, D. L. Gray, C. Dickson, N. Bowman, D. McNair, W. W. McKenzie, J. G. Brainerd, John Anderson, M. Russell, W. C. Hollyday, D. McCay, W. Waddel, J. S. Wilson, Daniel Stewart, and T. Price.

The report of the committee on raising funds, and a memorial and resolution on the same subject, were referred to the committee who prepared the report to be submitted to the next General Assembly, and that meanwhile the editors of religious papers are requested to publish it in their respective papers.

An appropriation of four thousand five hundred dollars was made for the Western Theological Seminary, agreeably to the request made in the report of that institution.

The chairman of the committee on raising funds having respectfully declined acting on the committee, as he did not expect being at the next Assembly, and as he had given the subject all the attention in his power; his request to be excused was granted, and the Rev. Dr. Plumer was appointed chairman of that committee.

The report on the marriage question was taken up, when it was agreed to print it in the Appendix to the *Minutes*, and refer it to the next General Assembly.

The following dissent was here entered upon the minutes :

The undersigned ask leave to dissent from the vote of this Assembly declaring that the pledge required by the Board of Education from their beneficiaries does not conflict with the Constitution, because we do believe that said pledge does encroach upon the rights of Presbyteries.

JOHN ALLISON,
PETER H. MARTIN,
ABRAHAM WILLIAMSON.

Resolved, That the cordial thanks of this Assembly be presented to the pastors, elders, and trustees of the First Presbyterian Church, and also to the several pastors and congregations of other churches, for the use of their pulpits, and to the citizens of Louisville generally for their hospitality to the members of this body during their session.

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk be directed to pay the bills for the incidental expenses of the Assembly, and to draw upon the Board of Trustees for the amount thereof out the Contingent Fund.

The committee to whom the protest against the decision of the Assembly in the case of the appeals and complaints of the Rev. Dr. Breckinridge and others was referred, reported, recommending that the protest be admitted to record, with the answer. This report was adopted.

The protest and answer are as follows :

PROTEST.

The report of the Judicial Committee, adopted by the Assembly, alleged that the complaints against the Synod of Philadelphia were not permitted by the Constitution of our Church, but it failed to specify in what respects the Constitution of the Church was opposed to these complaints. The only

reason presented in the report of the committee—viz. that the points involved were to come up in another form—could scarcely have been considered as a valid argument even by those who presented it. For if the Constitution allowed the complaints, then the denial of a hearing on such a ground as this would have been a gross evasion of the rights of the complainants; and if, on the other hand, the Constitution did not allow such complaints, then the statement that the points involved would come up in another form was entirely superfluous as a ground of argument.

I. The protestants, being thus left to infer the reasons of the alleged unconstitutionality of these complaints from the course of the debate, instead of finding them on record, as might be expected, in the formal report of the committee, are constrained, by a sense of what is due to truth, to the importance of the occasion, and to themselves, to state the leading reasons, with brief replies, thus showing in a negative form the clearness and importance of rights denied by the Assembly:

1. It is alleged that complaints cannot lie except in strictly judicial cases. We reply that this is contrary, as we believe, to the express language of our Constitution—that it is certainly undeniable that the large majority of cases of complaints tried by the higher judicatories of the Church are, and always have been, other than strictly judicial cases, and that no complaint has ever been thrown out of our church courts on the ground here assumed.

2. It is asserted that where no personal wrong is done or personal injury sustained no one has a right to complain. We answer that this is contrary to the plain letter of our law, which says (chapter 7, section 4, part 3, of Book of Discipline) that complaints are intended for cases in which “the judgment in question may do no wrong to any individual”—that this is contrary, too, to the whole reason and policy of that law, as well as to the whole course of proceedings in past time.

3. It is contended that the action of the Synod in those cases was purely negative—that nothing was decided, and therefore there could be no complaint. We reply, first, that there is an error of fact in this statement, for the form of the vote shows, and the Synod itself positively declares, that it did decide a most important principle; and, secondly, there is an error of reasoning, for a decision in the negative is as really a decision as one in the affirmative, and may, therefore, according to our book, which subjects “every kind of decision” to review, be carried up by complaint before a higher judicatory (Book of Discipline, ch. 7, sec. 2).

4. It is argued that the questions in the Synod being in the form of overture, and the adopting or refusing to adopt an overture resting on the discretion of the Synod, the refusal of the Synod to adopt did not afford ground of complaint. We answer that every inferior court is responsible to the courts above it for the proper exercise of its discretion, and therefore they may be complained of as regards its exercise; and whether the Synod of Philadelphia did exercise its discretion soundly or not was the very point to be tried, and which the Assembly refused to try.

5. It is contended that as there was no law obliging the Synod to act on the subjects submitted to it, there could be no transgression in its refusal to do so, and therefore no ground of complaint. We reply first, that they *did* act, and their *action* was complained of; therefore, whether it was obliged to act or not is not relevant in the present state of the case; secondly, that if this argument be well grounded, and Synod be not obliged to act except in cases in which it is compelled by positive law, then Synods could not be complained of for even the grossest violations of duty, such as refusing to receive and issue appeals brought regularly before them or refusing to redress what has been done by Presbyteries contrary to order, for there is no positive com-

mand of law requiring Synods to exercise any of their specified powers; and the power of Synods to pass an overture stands on exactly the same basis with the power to perform everything else entrusted to it (Form of Government, chap. xi. sec. 4).

6. It is urged that if the complaints were tried the Synod of Philadelphia must be excluded; which, it is said, would be most unjust. We reply that, supposing this were true, it is an argument against the Constitution of the Church, and not against the rights of the complainants in these cases.

II. We further protest against the refusal of the Assembly to hear the complainants on the question of the jurisdiction of this court, which was matter of common right. We protest also against the allowance of the Commissioners from the Synod complained against to vote in every stage of the proceedings, contrary to the common principle that no one should be allowed to vote in his own case, and contrary to the express provision of our Book of Discipline (ch. 7, sec. 4, par. 7). We protest, too, against the whole decision of this case in all its parts without the Assembly ever having sat as a court or its members having ever been charged by a Moderator.

III. We contend that by the plain law of the Church as written, and by that law as constantly expounded until now, complaints have been rightly considered as competent against all sorts of action which can be taken in a church court. We consider this right as far more important in public than in private cases—in erroneous decisions in matters of doctrine and government than in wrongs inflicted in personal cases. We believe also that the decision of the Assembly is inconsistent with the true policy of the Church, and that its tendency, if it is adhered to, will be to foster all kinds of diversity in practice and opinion in the various parts of the Church for want of remedy. It is, moreover, directly calculated to deprive the Assembly of important powers and rights which belong to it, not only under the Constitution, but in virtue of its very existence and organization as the court in which all the particular churches are represented, and which has all the powers residing in all other church courts, except so far as, for the sake of order and convenience, it is agreed in the Constitution that it shall not exercise those powers.

Wherefore, upon the grounds thus set forth, and without reference to the merits of the complaints, we protest against the refusal of the Assembly to try these complaints, and ask that this paper may be recorded on the minutes of the Assembly as exhibiting the fact and reasons of our protest against its decision.

(Signed)

JOHN C. YOUNG,	WM. M. FRANCIS,
CHARLES A. POELLNITZ,	E. M. DONALDSON,
N. H. HALL,	G. H. BRISCOE,
SAMUEL TAYLOR,	J. STONESTREET,
LEMON OATMAN,	J. S. HOPKINS,
JOHN S. REID,	V. KING,
GILBERT T. SNOWDEN,	SINGLETON WILSON,
ALEX. A. CAMPBELL,	P. R. FLEMING,
W. C. EMERSON,	JAMES K. DOUGLASS,
D. X. JUNKIN,	HAYS W. BEATTY,
SAMUEL McCAMPBELL,	JNO. A. CREVLING,
J. D. PAXTON,	JOHN BRECKENRIDGE,
A. B. MCKEE,	P. J. TIMLOW.
ROBERT B. DOBBINS,	

I concur in the above protest, with the exception of the second reason in reference to the right of the complainants to be heard on the question of jurisdiction.

JOHN ALLISON.

ANSWER TO THE ABOVE PROTEST

(ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY).

The committee appointed to answer the protest of J. C. Young and others against the action of the Assembly refusing to try the complaints of R. J. Breckinridge and others against the Synod of Philadelphia, beg leave to report the following:

A considerable part of the protest is really not a protest against the action of the Assembly refusing to entertain the complaints in question, but an answer to various reasons urged or supposed to have been urged by individual members in favor of said action. Inasmuch as the Assembly is in no sense responsible for the arguments or reasons offered by individuals, that part of the protest which purports to be an answer to such arguments is wholly out of place. The protestants, indeed, allege, that they are constrained to pursue this singular course because the Judicial Committee failed to specify in what respects the Constitution of the Church was opposed to these complaints or to assign the reasons of the action of this body. But the Assembly are not aware that it is the duty of the Judicial Committee to give such specifications and reasons. A protest, according to our book, "is generally accompanied with a detail of the reasons on which it is founded" (Book of Discipline, ch. 8, sec. 2). The appropriate business of the protestants, therefore, was simply to give the reasons on which their protest was founded, not to answer the arguments offered by individuals in debate, for which the Assembly is not responsible.

In replying to the protest in question little more is necessary than to state distinctly what was the action of the Synod of Philadelphia complained of by R. J. Breckinridge and others. Two papers were offered by Dr. Breckinridge for the adoption of the Synod, the one relating to the constitution of a quorum in Presbytery, the other to the imposition of hands by ruling elders in the ordination of ministers of the gospel. In relation to each paper the question on which the Synod voted was in the following words: "Shall this paper be adopted?" By a large majority the Synod refused to adopt these papers. The Assembly know of no law in our Book of Discipline requiring a Presbytery or a Synod to adopt any paper or papers submitted to them by any individual or any number of individuals; and if there is no such law, there *could be* no transgression of law or neglect of duty, and consequently no ground of complaint.

The papers in question condemn the interpretation of certain clauses in our Constitution given by the last Assembly, propose an opposite interpretation, and overture this General Assembly to repeal the overtures adopted by the last Assembly and to adopt interpretations of an opposite character. In regard to these papers it is proper to remark—

1. There was no *case* before the Synod. No elder complained that he had been deprived of what he regarded as a constitutional right. No Presbytery was charged with having constituted and proceeded to business without a constitutional quorum. The Synod, therefore, was not called upon to *administer* law, but to *interpret* our Constitution—to decide constitutional questions *in thesi*. How far it is expedient to give expositions of our Constitution or to decide constitutional questions *in thesi* it may be difficult to determine; but certain it is that no church judicatory is bound, in any state of case, to give such decisions. But "where there is no law, there is no transgression;" and, of course there can be no ground of complaint. The protestants allege that the Synod *did act*, and that their *action* was complained of. The answer is—that the only action of the Synod in the case was a refusal to adopt certain papers offered by a member of that body. To this action, if it be proper

to call it so, the Synod was forced by the member who offered the papers. They were obliged either to adopt them or to refuse them. They deemed it wise, as they had the perfect right, to do the latter.

2. Again: these papers, if adopted, required the Synod to send to this Assembly an *overture* or *request* to give an interpretation of our Constitution contrary to that given by the last Assembly. But, although it is the right of Sessions, Presbyteries, or Synods to overture the Assembly whenever they may deem it wise to do so, there is in our book no law requiring them or any one of them to do so in any case. In declining to send up an overture, therefore, the Synod of Philadelphia violated no law, committed no transgression against ecclesiastical law, and consequently a complaint against that body cannot lie. The very idea of forcing either individuals or bodies to overture or petition is absurd.

But the protestants strangely contend that "every inferior court is responsible to the courts above it for the proper exercise of its discretion, and therefore they may be complained of as regards its exercise." Where there is *responsibility* there can be no *discretion*. To maintain the contrary is to contend that an individual or a body may use their discretion, provided they use it *in a certain way*—that they may do as they please, provided they are pleased to act *in a particular manner!* The truth is, that where ecclesiastical *rights* of individuals or bodies are concerned there is no discretion. All such rights are guarded by our Constitution, by which every church court is bound. The admission of the protestants that the Synod had the right to exercise its own discretion in the matter complained of is, in effect, an admission that the complaint is not legitimate, and ought not to have been entertained by this body.

Still more strangely, if possible, the protestants allege that "if the Synod be not obliged to act except in cases in which it is compelled by positive law, then Synods could not be complained of for even the grossest violations of duty, such as refusing to receive and issue appeals brought regularly before them or refusing to redress what has been done by Presbyteries contrary to order." Do they, then, maintain, that it is merely *discretionary* with Presbyteries and Synods whether they will receive and issue appeals, etc. regularly brought before them, as they admit it was with the Synod of Philadelphia whether they would condemn the doings of the last Assembly and overture this Assembly to do the same? But, say they, "there is no positive command or law requiring Synods to exercise any of their specified powers." To prove that this statement is wholly incorrect it is necessary only to refer to chapter 7, sections 1, 3, 4 of our Book of Discipline. Section first treats of the *duties* of church judicatories in relation to review and control. Sections third and fourth treat of the *right* to appeal and complain in certain cases, etc. Where there are *duties* there can be no discretion; and where there is a *right* to appeal and complain there is positive obligation on the part of the judicatory to receive and issue such appeals and complaints. But where, in our Constitution, is it said to be the *duty* of any church judicatory either to adopt papers that may be offered, to decide constitutional questions *in thesi*, or to overture a higher court? Or where is the right given to individuals, in any case, to have their interpretations of our Constitution adopted? There are no such duties on the one hand or rights on the other, and consequently no right of appeal or complaint.

3. An additional objection to the appeals and complaints is—that were they entertained the Synod of Philadelphia would, in the final vote, be excluded from voting. This, in the administration of law, where the inferior court has decided the case and the appeal or complaint is against their decision, would be perfectly proper. But in the mere *interpretation* of our Constitu-

tion, in regard to which all have a common interest, and therefore common rights, such a course would be unconstitutional and grossly unjust. The Synod of Philadelphia, if the complaints had been entertained, would have been excluded as having decided the questions involved. But the Synod of Kentucky has also given its decisions of the same questions. Why, then, should the one vote and the other be excluded? Nay, it is believed that a large majority of the members of this Assembly have, in one form or another, decided upon them. Why, then, permit them to vote and exclude the Synod of Philadelphia? What interest has this Synod more than other Synods or Presbyteries in giving a wrong exposition of our book? When we *interpret* our Constitution the voice of the whole Church should be heard.

But the protestants say this is an argument against our Constitution. In this, however, they are mistaken. It is only an argument against *their incorrect interpretation of it*. It gives no right to appeal or complain against a judicatory for declining to decide a constitutional question *in thesi* or to overture the higher court.

4. That the complaint is illegitimate is further evident from the consequences which would follow the adoption of the principle involved in it. If our church courts are bound, in any case, to decide constitutional questions *in thesi* and to overture the higher court, it follows—

1st. That any member of a Session, Presbytery, or Synod can at any time force the Assembly to discuss and decide, *in thesi*, any constitutional question he may choose to raise or any number of them. He has only to offer his interpretation to the lower court and come up with his complaint, which must be regularly issued.

2d. The Assembly can be forced to discuss and decide the same question repeatedly at the same session. The minority of the Synod of Kentucky might have complained of its action on the same points, and, according to the doctrine of the protestants, the Assembly must have regularly tried both complaints, regularly hearing the parties from both Synods discuss the same points, not in relation to the *administration* of law, where both parties claim to have been aggrieved, but in relation to the interpretation of law.

3d. The Assembly could be forced to decide great constitutional questions by only a part of the delegates from the Presbyteries, thus excluding a large number of Presbyteries from a vote on the interpretation of the Constitution by which they are to be governed.

4th. The Assembly by the exclusion of different Synods in deciding the different complaints might be placed in the humiliating attitude of giving contradictory expositions of the Constitution at the same sessions.

Who will pretend that our Constitution is so defective, so strangely inconsistent, as to expose our church courts to difficulties and absurdities such as those just mentioned?

In answer to the *third* reason assigned by the protestants, it is sufficient to state that it has not been, and we believe it cannot be, proved that any General Assembly of our Church ever entertained a complaint such as the one in question—a complaint against a church judicatory for refusing to decide constitutional questions *in thesi* or to overture a higher judicatory. The complaint under consideration is, so far as this Assembly is informed, strictly *sui generis*.

Finally, our Constitution prescribes the mode in which constitutional questions may be brought before the General Assembly. The proper course was pursued by the Presbytery of Cincinnati in regard to the matters embraced in Dr. Breckinridge's papers; and they were brought before this body untrammelled by judicial proceedings; and the voice of the representatives of the Church decided on the true meaning of the clauses in our Constitution concerning which there has been difference of opinion.

In reply to the complaint of the protestants that the Assembly refused to hear the complainants on the right of jurisdiction, it is sufficient to say—1st. That it cannot be shown that our book gives such rights. 2d. The adoption of the principle involved in such a claim would be followed by most of the difficulties already enumerated as consequent upon entertaining the complaint. The Assembly must, from year to year, agree to hear every member of a Session, Presbytery, or Synod who may choose to try to convince them that they have jurisdiction over all kinds of subjects. 3d. There was properly no question as to right of jurisdiction. The matter of complaint against the Synod belongs not to the department of discipline.

In reply to the complaint of the protestants that the Assembly did not sit as a court, and that the members were not charged by the Moderator, it is sufficient to state that as the Assembly could not sit in a *judicial capacity* until the complaint was decided to be orderly and legitimate, the objection is wholly without force.

The protestants think the course pursued by the Assembly calculated to foster all kinds of diversity in practice and opinion. They seem not to see that the course pursued by the complainants and by themselves in relation to the decisions of the highest court of our Church, to which it properly belongs to expound the Constitution and settle all controversies, is directly calculated to produce the very result they seem to deprecate.

It was moved, That inasmuch as there is not time for the committee appointed to answer the protests on the quorum and ordination questions previously to the adjournment of the Assembly, therefore

Resolved, 1st. That the protests be admitted to record; 2d. That the committee appointed to prepare answers be requested to do so after the rising of the Assembly, and forward them to the Stated Clerk; 3d. In taking this course the Assembly disclaim any want of respect to said protestants, and express the hope that agitation on the subjects in question may cease.

These protests and answers are as follows, viz.:

PROTEST ON THE QUORUM QUESTION.

The undersigned members of the General Assembly, desire to record their protest against the decision of the Assembly upon the quorum question.

The following are some of the grounds of protest:

1. We consider the act of the last General Assembly in affirming, and of this General Assembly in reaffirming, that "any three ministers of a Presbytery, being regularly convened, are a quorum competent to the transaction of all business," to be unconstitutional, as by this decision the Assembly have in effect, as we believe, stricken out from the 7th section of chapter 10 of the Form of Government the words "and as many elders as may be present belonging to the Presbytery," thus virtually changing a constitutional rule; which they are expressly forbidden to do. (See section 6 of chapter 12.)

2. The Constitution clearly defines the Presbytery as a body consisting of two sets of church officers, preachers on the one hand, and on the other ruling elders. To enable one of the constitutional elements of such a body to do business in the absence of the other, *without clear and express provision of law authorizing it*, we believe to be contrary to all precedent in cases of bodies similarly constituted.

3. The provision of our Form of Government (chap. 10, sec. 10,) requiring the consent of two elders of different congregations to enable the Moderator of Presbytery to call a special meeting, shows that our Constitution intended to guard with care against the possibility of holding a meeting of Presbytery without the consent and presence of ruling elders.

4. The natural construction of the clause "as many elders as may be present" implies, as we believe, the presence of some one or more elders; and similar expressions in other writings show that the language conveys an idea not of contingency or uncertainty as to the presence of any, but only indefiniteness as to the number of those who are to be present.

5. Ruling elders are in chapter 5 declared to be "properly the representatives of the people, chosen by them for the purpose of exercising government and discipline;" and to permit government and discipline to be exercised in the absence of all the representatives of the people, as is permitted by this decision, seems to us to be strangely in conflict with the representative character of our Constitution.

6. According to this decision the government of the Church may be exercised by even three ministers who have been ordained *sine titulo*, and who have never been called to rule even an individual church; and we certainly believe that our book never can sanction a decision which might even occasionally devolve the whole authority of a Presbytery upon those who have never in any way been elected by the people to govern them.

For the reasons herein set forth we dissent from the opinion of the General Assembly on the above-mentioned decision, and respectfully request that this our protest may be recorded on the minutes.

JOHN C. YOUNG,	J. A. CREVLING,
D. X. JUNKIN,	N. H. HALL,
ALEX. A. CAMPBELL,	JOHN S. REID,
WM. C. EMERSON,	GILBERT T. SNOWDEN,
ROBERT B. DOBBINS,	SAMUEL TAYLOR,
E. M. DONALDSON,	CHAS. A. POELNITZ,
WM. M. FRANCIS,	L. OATMAN,
SAMUEL McCAMPBELL,	A. B. McKEE,
G. H. BRISCOE,	J. D. PAXTON,
V. KING,	JAMES F. GIBERT,
P. R. FLEMING,	BENJAMIN JUNKIN,
JAMES K. DOUGLASS,	JOHN BRECKENRIDGE,
HAYS W. BEATTY,	SINGLETON WILSON,
J. S. HOPKINS,	P. J. TIMLOW.

REPLY TO THE FOREGOING PROTEST.

The committee appointed to answer the protest of the Rev. Dr. Young and others against the decision of the General Assembly in regard to the quorum of Presbytery, respectfully present the following suggestions in reply:

That as the protest consists chiefly in mere declarations of opinions held by the protesters, the committee deem it unnecessary to enter into a full discussion of the points presented in the protest, and will content themselves with stating what they understand to be the views of the Assembly, and with giving a brief outline of the reasons by which the Assembly was governed in their decision. In the execution of their purpose the committee will follow the course of the protesters, and take up the several points to be considered in the order in which they occur in the protest itself:

1. The protesters say that they "consider the act of the last General Assembly (1843) in affirming, and of this General Assembly (1844) in reaffirming, that 'any three ministers of a Presbytery regularly convened are a quorum competent to the transaction of all business,' to be unconstitutional, as the Assembly have in effect, as we [the protesters] believe, stricken out from the seventh section of chapter ten of the Form of Government the words 'and as many ruling elders as may be present belonging

to the Presbytery,' thus virtually changing a constitutional rule." That the protesters so believe the committee do not question, but they are perfectly confident that the Assembly were of a different mind, and that there is no discrepancy between the rule in our Form of Government and the decision of the General Assembly. The Assembly did not decide that any three ministers regularly convened, to the exclusion of any number of elders, however large that number, were a quorum competent to the transaction of all business, but merely this, that under the provisions of the rule, properly understood, any three ministers regularly convened were competent to transact business, although no elders should be present; understanding the phrase "as many elders as may be present belonging to the Presbytery" as implying that all such elders as belong to the Presbytery should be entitled to a seat in the body, although they should outnumber the ministers, and also as implying the possibility that no elders might be present, the form of expression being one that would include all the possible cases that could arise: 1. That in which no ruling elders were present; 2. That in which the number of ruling elders would be less than the number of ministers; 3. That in which the numbers would be equal; and 4. That in which the ruling elders would outnumber the ministers. If the words of the rule are susceptible of this explanation—and we regard it as the only just and legitimate one—then the Assembly have done no violence to the rule, but have given a decision in accordance with the true import of its terms.

2. The protesters again object to the decision of the Assembly on the ground "that the Constitution clearly defines the Presbytery as a body consisting of two sets of church officers—preachers on the one hand and ruling elders on the other." And they maintain that "to enable one of the constituent elements of such a body to do business in the absence of the other, *without clear and express provision of law authorizing it*, we believe to be contrary to all precedent in cases of bodies similarly constituted."

On the ground assumed by the protesters the committee maintain that the decision of the Assembly can be justified, for the very terms of the law or specific provision relating to the quorum of Presbytery require the construction given to the rule by the Assembly. And were the import of the rule doubtful—which the committee do not admit—the facts that there can be a quorum of a church Session without a minister present, and a quorum of a General Assembly without a ruling elder present, would show conclusively that in interpreting the rule the mere fact that the Presbytery is composed of two classes of church officers would of itself be no evidence that a quorum of the body could not consist of those belonging to one class; and that class, too, the members of which are invested with all the powers belonging to the members of the other class. If, from the nature of the case—or, in other words, if from the composition of the General Assembly, to which the Constitution requires an equal number of ministers and ruling elders to be delegated—there is no impediment in the way of a quorum being composed of ministers alone, what can there be in the composition of a Presbytery to prevent ministers alone from composing a quorum? But the fact is otherwise than as stated by the protesters. In the Scottish Church the quorums of Presbyteries, Synods, and of the General Assembly and its General Commission may be composed of ministers alone; and the House of Lords in Britain, composed of the peers and bishops, may and do transact business in the absence of the bishops. And even if the bishops have seats in the House of Lords in virtue of their holding in ancient times certain baronies, and thus virtually composing one class, as some maintain, do not the protesters themselves, or at least some of them, hold that it is only as ruling elders that ministers are entitled to seats in our church courts? And therefore upon

their own showing there is no impediment arising from the composition of these courts in the way of the ministers alone constituting a quorum.

But beyond all question the safest precedents in this matter are those furnished by our own and other Presbyterian church courts, and more especially those of Scotland and Ireland, from which we derived our own forms of government and discipline.

3. The next objection urged by the protesters is that "the provision of our Form of Government (chap. x. sec. 10) requiring the consent of two elders of different congregations to enable the Moderator of the Presbytery to call a special meeting, shows that our Constitution intended to guard against the possibility of holding a meeting of Presbytery without the consent and presence of ruling elders.

That this provision was designed to guard against the holding of a special meeting without the consent of a fair proportion of the eldership assenting thereto, we admit; but surely the protesters draw an inference altogether unwarranted when they consider this provision designed to secure the presence of the ruling elders. That there may be a quorum at this special meeting it is not necessary that any of the ministers or ruling elders who request the meeting to be called should be present, or even that the Moderator himself should be present. Before the ruling elders who united in the request for calling the meeting could attend said meeting it would be necessary for their respective Sessions to commission them.

The design, therefore, of this provision was not "to guard against the possibility of holding a meeting of Presbytery without the . . . presence of ruling elders," but for the reason that, as the elders are equally interested with the ministers in the business of the Presbytery, and their convenience should be consulted as well as that of the ministers, it is fit that no special meeting should be called without the consent of an equal number of ministers and elders. The circular letter of the Moderator is designed to secure as far as practicable the attendance of all the ministers and of a ruling elder from each church. But neither the issuing of the letter nor the concurrence of the two ministers or of the two ruling elders determines anything as to the question whether there can be a quorum without the presence of one or more ruling elders.

4. The objection derived from the import of the phrase "as many as may be present" has been sufficiently answered under the first head.

5. The fifth objection urged against the decision of the Assembly is, that "ruling elders are (in chap. 5) declared to be 'properly the representatives of the people, chosen by them for the purpose of exercising government and discipline,' and to permit government and discipline to be exercised in the absence of all the representatives of the people, as is permitted by this decision, seems to us (the protesters) to be strangely in conflict with the representative character of our Constitution."

The objection, if of any force, is of equal avail against a quorum of the General Assembly consisting of ministers alone, which beyond all question may be the case, and condemns the early practice of our own Church both before and after the adoption of the Constitution in 1788. Besides, it assumes what the protesters have nowhere attempted to prove—viz. that the ministers of Christ assembled in Presbytery can do no business in the absence of the people or their representatives. Although the people have the right to be represented in Presbytery by their ruling elders, it by no means follows from this circumstance that they must be represented before the regular business of the body can be transacted. The representative character, therefore, of our Constitution forms no valid objection against the decision of the Assembly.

6. The sixth and last objection urged by the protesters against the decision of the Assembly is, "that the government of the Church may be exercised by even three ministers who have been ordained *sine titulo*, and who have never been called to rule in an individual church;" and then follows an expression of their belief that "our book can never sanction a decision which even occasionally devolves the authority of a Presbytery upon those who have never in any way been elected by the people to govern them."

This is evidently a hypothetical case, rather than one likely to occur in real life; and if such an one should ever happen to occur, it would be with the implied consent, at least, of all the regularly settled pastors and of all the elderships within the limits of the Presbytery; for without their knowledge and consent it could not possibly take place. And, further, no man is ever ordained *sine titulo*, except with the express or implied consent of the churches given through their pastors and ruling elders.

It is believed by the committee that the objections of the protesters have been fully met, and that it is unnecessary to enter into a full specification of the reasons in favor of the decision of the Assembly—a decision which the Assembly believed to accord with the true import of the terms of the rule, and to be confirmed by the practice of our own and other Presbyterian church courts and by the practice of other bodies similarly constituted. Of all this full evidence has in various forms been given to the churches. For further evidence of the correctness of the decision of the General Assembly the committee would refer to the *Minutes* for 1843.

JAMES HOGE, B. H. RICE,
JOHN MACLEAN, H. A. BOARDMAN,
C. C. CUYLER,

Committee.

PROTEST ON THE IMPOSITION OF HANDS BY THE ELDERSHIP IN THE ORDINATION OF MINISTERS.

The undersigned, who voted in the minority on the first resolution of the series reported by the Committee of Overtures—viz. the resolution which explains, justifies, and reaffirms the decision of the last Assembly that ruling elders when members of Presbytery have no authority to impose hands in the ordination of ministers of the word—by way of protest against the action of the present Assembly adopting the said first resolution respectfully submit—

I. That they are gratified to find the Assembly in the said resolution distinctly asserting the right and power of ruling elders in common with preaching elders to order the whole work of ordination, and their further rightful power of judging in the discipline of ministers of the word; and, further, in the third resolution, affirming and maintaining the scriptural authority of the office of ruling elders, and their equal participation in the exercise of government and discipline. These are important—nay, fundamental—principles, and in the existing state of opinion amongst many in our Church we hail their open and formal avowal as a most important event, and make this statement lest our vote against the said first resolution might be construed into a denial of these great truths.

II. We believe that the Assembly erred in matter of fact, matter of law, and matter of reason in the said resolution, in the things following, viz.:

1. It is in our opinion an error of fact to assert or assume that the practice of our Church has been clear and uniform against the exercise of the right of ruling elders to impose hands in ordination, for that the contrary practice has obtained in various portions of our Church, and for a period be-

yond the memory of some of our oldest ministers, is capable of distinct proof. There is a member of this Assembly who was ordained more than twenty years ago upon whom ruling elders imposed hands. And, moreover, since, as the law stands, the act of any part of the Presbytery is valid at all only so far as it is the act of the body itself, the mere presence of elders in the body nullifies the allegation that it was the practice that they should not unite in acts of the body, and requires positive proof of a positive practice which forbade their acting; and we deny the existence of any such proof. As to matter of fact, therefore, we take issue with the Assembly, and deny that any such positive practice at all in our Church, much less any clear and uniform practice, as assumed in the resolution, justifies the statement that it is against law for elders to lay on hands.

2. As to the whole influence of practice in determining the sense of written constitutions, much less of divine ordinances and records, we consider the ground assumed by the Assembly in the said resolution as erroneous in point of reason; and we contend that the practice of our own Church, if it were clear, uniform, and unquestioned, could never oblige the conscience of its office-bearers to put on written language a sense different from the sense contained in the words, more especially when the language, and not the practice, is adopted under solemn vows to God. And we deny that the practice of all the churches in the world can ever do more than afford a presumption in favor of the truth of what the practice favors—a presumption whose force depends entirely on the character of the things themselves and that of the churches which practice them; and our Church has in practice done what was forbidden, and failed to do what was commanded, and the practice under the Westminster form of government should not be relied on, because the language of that form has been materially changed in our book.

3. In the distinction which the Assembly takes between the *rite* of ordination and the substance of the act we are of opinion that there is an error both of law and of reason—of law, because our Constitution does not say that imposition of hands is by the ministers of the word as a *rite* superadded to the act of the Presbytery, but it says that the imposition of hands is the act of the Presbytery, conjoined to the ordination by the Moderator of the body in its behalf; of reason, because in the nature of the case a church court cannot perform a *rite*, which is personal to ministers of the word; and therefore if imposition of hands be a *rite*, belonging to ministers of the word as such, it belongs to them individually, and is as incapable of joint exercise as the *rite* of baptism.

4. If the Assembly means to say that the whole of ordination is merely a ministerial and declarative *rite*, as its language seems to bear, then we say this seems to us to be a total error of fact, of law, and of reason; for, as we believe, ordination is by God's word simply and merely an act of jurisdiction, and belongs absolutely and exclusively to such assemblies as, being composed of teaching and ruling elders, are invested with power to rule, and by our Constitution to a court of this sort called a Presbytery. The Presbytery, composed of ministers and elders, has the power to ordain ministers is the express language of our Constitution; and to us it seems clear that to separate the power of ordination from the other portions of jurisdiction in the Church, and to make it a *rite* instead of an exercise of rule or government, is inconsistent not only with Presbyterian but with Protestant ground of church order.

5. Where the Assembly say that because "the *rite* of ordination is simply a declaratory ministerial act," therefore the laying on of hands as a part thereof must belong properly to ordained ministers, and for the same reason ruling elders cannot unite in this part of the act, their words necessarily

bear that for the same reason the same elders ought not to take part in any other portion of the act or *rite* of ordination; and, moreover, if ruling elders cannot take part, as the Assembly say they cannot, in any act which is *declaratory* and *ministerial*, then they cannot take part in any act of any kind whatever, for the only power possessed by teaching or ruling elders, whether *jointly* or *severally*, is merely *declarative* and *ministerial*, as God's word and our Constitution abundantly declare.

6. It appears to us that the denial of the right of ruling elders to impose hands involves the denial that they are scriptural presbyters; which denial seems to us to undermine the foundation of Presbyterian order; and to assert that ordination, embracing imposition of hands, is more or less than an act of church power exerted by the constitutional tribunals, seems to us to imply that it is a mere form or that it is a true sacrament—either of which errors appears inconsistent with the principles of Protestantism.

With great respect for the authority of the Assembly, we feel obliged by a sense of what is due to truth, as we understand it, to offer these reasons of protest, that our true position, and the exact objections we take to the aforesaid resolution of the Assembly may appear in time to come.

JAS. STONESTREET,	J. D. PAXTON,
N. H. HALL,	SINGLETON WILSON,
ROBERT B. DOBBINS,	JAMES F. GIBERT,
CHAS. A. POELLNITZ,	ALEX. A. CAMPBELL,
SAMUEL TAYLOR,	G. H. BRISCOE,
P. R. FLEMING,	V. KING,
GILBERT T. SNOWDEN,	A. B. McKEE,
JAMES K. DOUGLASS,	W. C. EMMERSON,
J. S. HOPKINS,	H. W. BEATTY,
SAMUEL McCAMPBELL,	JOHN C. YOUNG,
JOHN S. REID,	J. R. McMULLEN.

ANSWER TO THE FOREGOING PROTEST.

The committee appointed to answer the protest of Messrs. James Stonestreet, N. H. Hall, and others against the decision of the General Assembly, respecting the "imposition of hands" in the ordination of ministers, respectfully present the following reply to the positions in said protest:

We fully concur with the protesters in the satisfaction which they express that the Assembly distinctly asserts "the right and power of ruling elders, in common with preaching elders, to order the whole work of ordination" "and their equal participation in the exercise of government and discipline," etc.; yet as the language employed by our protesting brethren may convey the idea that the Assembly has been constrained to make these admissions by force of argument in the recent controversy, we feel called upon to state most explicitly that no change in sentiment has been produced by the arguments of the protesters or of those who agree with them in opinion. The opinions of the Assembly of 1844 are identical with those of the Assembly of 1843, and the resolution protested against merely expresses what were the doctrine and practice of the Presbyterian Church when the Constitution was framed, and, as far as we are informed, at every period of its previous and subsequent history. Of this statement full proof was given in the debates of the last Assembly.

1. The protesters charge that "the Assembly erred in matter of fact, matter of law, and matter of reason;" and as evidence of error in matter of fact they state that there was on the floor of the Assembly a minister or-

dained more than twenty years ago upon whom ruling elders imposed hands. This, it is presumed, is the earliest instance of the kind of which our protesting brethren have any certain knowledge, and if so, how very far short does it come of overthrowing the position that the practice of our own and of all other Presbyterian churches is averse to the opinions of the protesters! Admitting, as they assert, that "a contrary practice has obtained in various portions of our Church," and that, too, "from a period beyond the memory of some of our oldest ministers"—of which, however, no certain evidence has ever been furnished—yet it is evident from the whole current of testimony that these instances are but mere exceptions to the general practice, and that they occurred in portions of the Church remote from the seats of the older churches and Presbyteries, by which, in 1788, our Constitution was ratified and adopted. And after all, "the various portions of our Church" spoken of will doubtless, upon examination, be found to be very few in number, and the contrary practice can in all probability be traced to the mistaken views of a few men in what was at that time a distant and feeble Presbytery. Not a single instance has ever been adduced within the limits of the older Presbyteries in which ruling elders imposed hands in the ordination of ministers; and all tradition is in favor of the ground taken by the General Assembly. In Europe and America there are various denominations of Presbyterians, yet none of them permit any others than ministers of the word to impose hands in the ordination of ministers.

2. "The mere presence of elders in the body," say our brethren, "nullifies the allegation that it was the practice that they should not unite in acts of the body, and requires positive proof of a positive practice which forbade their acting; and we deny the existence of any such proof." If the committee understand this language—of which they are not at all confident—they would say in reference to the practice of the Church that the allegation has no respect to what in time past ruling elders should not have done, but has respect to what they did not do; and we know of no one who maintains that any "positive practice forbade" ruling elders to act in the imposition of hands, but that it was contrary to practice for them to do so. The rule limits the imposition of hands to the clergy, and reference was made to the practice to show that the construction put upon the rule was the construction universally put upon it by those who framed the rule, and almost universally by those who have acted upon it.

3. Again, the protesters charge what we most positively and unequivocally disavow—viz. that we plead practice against the plain and obvious meaning of the words. We maintain that the words of the rule, properly understood and compared with the other parts of the Constitution, require the construction given to the rule by the Assembly. We appeal to the practice of our own and other Presbyterian churches as confirmatory of the exposition given to the rule, and as the best evidence, in addition to the language which they have used, of the meaning and intention of those who framed our system of government and discipline. And will any one question the propriety of this use of well-attested practice carried through generations and even centuries? Or will any intelligent and candid men set up against uniform and general practice mere exceptions which are limited in their extent and of modern date?

4. The protesters next observe that "in the distinction which the Assembly takes between the rite of ordination and the substance of the act we (the protesters) are of the opinion that there is an error both of law and of reason." The committee do not understand the Assembly as making the distinction to which objection is here made. The Presbytery has power to ordain because it is composed in part of those to whom the power of ordination belongs, but

who, agreeably to the principles of Presbyterian government and the law of our Church, are not to exercise this power without the consent of the ruling elders, the representatives in Presbytery of the people. And hence, although ordination belongs to the power of jurisdiction as contended for by our brethren, yet the power of the eldership in regard to it is limited to a concurrence with the ministers in deciding and ordering that it shall take place, and in determining the time, place, and the persons who are to take part in the public services. And this is the utmost point to which the most strenuous advocates for ordination pertaining to the jurisdiction of the Church have gone till recently in reference to the power of ruling elders in the matter of ordination.

5. The remarks just made the committee consider a sufficient reply to what is said in the next section of the protest.

6. In saying that "the rite of ordination is simply a declaratory ministerial act, of which imposition of hands is a part," the Assembly meant nothing more than this—that the solemn ceremony of setting a candidate apart to the office of the holy ministry was a rite that appertained to ministers alone, and that "imposition of hands" was used as a moral sign to declare publicly who the party is that is set apart to the work of the ministry. In this sense it is properly called a declarative act, and, inasmuch as it is to be performed by ministers alone, it is properly called a ministerial act.

7. The protesters next say that it appears to them "that the denial of the right of ruling elders to impose hands involves the denial that they are scriptural presbyters."

But do they not themselves advert with satisfaction to the fact that the Assembly in their resolutions on this subject affirm and maintain "the scriptural authority of the office of ruling elder"? With no propriety, therefore, can the denial by the Assembly of the right of ruling elders to impose hands in the ordination of ministers be regarded as involving a denial that they are scriptural officers. That it involves a denial that they are "bishops," "pastors," "ministers," and even "presbyters" in exactly the same sense that ministers are presbyters, is conceded. Their distinctive character being that of "representatives of the people," and their official name being that of "ruling elders" in order to distinguish them the more fully from those who both in the Scripture and in our Form of Government are styled simply "presbyters," or "elders," meaning ministers of the word, who alone are the Presbytery to whom the imposition of hands appertains, it appertaining to the ruling elders to concur with the ministers or presbyters as to the propriety or impropriety of ordaining a candidate for the sacred office.

Much of the erroneous reasoning respecting the powers of the ruling elders arises from overlooking the distinction between ministers of the gospel and ruling elders. Both these classes of officers are appointed to exercise government and discipline, but to the former only does it belong to labor in the word and doctrine, and therefore to set apart in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, after due trial and approbation, those who are to take part in the same ministry.

We have now taken notice of all the objections of the protesters, and, if we mistake not, we have fairly met them. Were it requisite, we could, without difficulty, set forth the objections to the views entertained by the protesters, and show that their views are contrary to Scripture, to the Constitution of our Church, and to the practice of our own and all other Presbyterian churches, and that they tend to subvert the office of ruling elder by confounding it with that of minister of the word. It was the doctrine of the Independents, and not of the Presbyterians, that ruling elders had the right to impose hands in the ordination of ministers, as could be abundantly shown from authorities not to be questioned.

In favor of the decision of the last Assembly, or rather of the last three General Assemblies, it can be shown—1. That the decision accords with the word of God; 2. With the very words of our Constitution; 3. With the uniform practice of those who framed the Constitution; 4. With the uniform practice of all other Presbyterian churches; and we cannot but express the hope that a matter which has been decided after a full and careful examination by our whole Church, and by such large majorities, may be considered as settled, and that it will not be made a subject of further agitation.

JAMES HOGE,
JOHN MACLEAN,
C. C. CUYLER,
B. H. RICE,
H. A. BOARDMAN,
Committee.

On motion, the Rev. Mr. Pinney, agent of the Pennsylvania Colonization Society, was heard for a short time on the subject of his agency.

On motion, the thanks of the Assembly were returned to Mr. Pinney for his address, and it was

Resolved, That the cause which he advocates be commended to the favorable notice of our churches.

Mr. Gurley requested to be excused as a member of the committee appointed to reply to the protests. His request was granted, and Drs. Cuyler and Rice and Mr. Boardman were added to that committee.

The minutes were then read and the roll called.

The Assembly having finished their business, it was

Resolved, That this General Assembly be dissolved, and that another General Assembly, chosen in like manner, be required to meet in the First Presbyterian Church in the city of Cincinnati, Ohio, on the third Thursday of May, A. D. 1845, at 11 o'clock, A. M.

Accordingly, the Moderator dissolved the Assembly with singing, prayer, and the benediction.

B. GILDERSLEEVE, *Clerk pro tem.*

APPENDIX.

NARRATIVE OF THE STATE OF RELIGION,

PRESENTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
IN THE UNITED STATES TO THE CHURCHES UNDER THEIR CARE.

BRETHREN IN THE LORD: Of the various high and solemn functions constitutionally pertaining to the General Assembly, none are more important than those by which "they shall constitute the bond of union, peace, correspondence, and mutual confidence amongst all our churches." And of the duties to be performed in accomplishing this, none is more interesting in its character or more efficient in its results than the furnishing to the churches an annual history of the state of religion. What bond of union so strong as the cords of love? And what so directly tends to strengthen those cords as to recount what our common Lord has done for us—to tell the story of his gracious dealings, and thus to awaken in all hearts that glow of gratitude that binds to him as our glorious *Head*, and thus brings each and all to feel themselves to be "one body in Christ, and every one members one of another"? "Union, peace, correspondence, and mutual confidence" are necessary in every army, and in none more than in "the sacramental host of God's elect." And what so sweetly and so strongly tends to bind the heart of the soldier to his comrades as the rehearsal of their mutual toils and trials, their dangers and discouragements, their hopes and fears, their tribulations and their triumphs, especially if every rehearsal closes with a mutual and spontaneous ascription of wisdom and power and prowess and honor to the Captain under whom they serve? And may we not hope that whilst we recount to you what we have learned of the trials and the triumphs, of the peril and prosperity, of our beloved Zion during the past year—ascribing, as we do, all power and grace and glory to the great Captain of our salvation—your hearts and ours may kindle with a livelier love and be warmed with a wiser and more steadfast zeal?

From nearly all of our Presbyteries narratives of the progress and state of religion have been received, and, if it were practicable, we could not, perhaps, do the churches a greater service than by spreading these narratives fully before you in all the fervor and freshness with which they are written. And we feel that in attempting to condense them into a brief compass we will fail to make upon your minds the impression which they have left upon our own. The brethren who have prepared the several narratives from which the General Assembly compiles this "speak that they do know and testify that they have seen;" and there is a warmth and a freshness about their statements that are chilled by change of style and killed by condensation. We would, beloved brethren, that you could hear as we have heard the things that relate to the state and progress of our Master's cause all over the vast field of the operations of our Church. We would that you could hear the voice of confession and lamentation over the sins and desolations of our Israel that has come upon our ears, and as the wail of Rachel weeping for her children, and in strains plaintive as the harp of Jeremiah. We would

that you could hear as we have heard the tidings of revival as told by many grateful Presbyteries in language glad as the sound of the jubilee. We would that you could listen as the Assembly has done to the Macedonian cry, "Come over and help us," swelling as it does from so many parts of our vast land—from the mountain and valley of the East, from the wood and the prairie of the West, from the lake-bound border of the North, and from the green savannah of the South. We would that you could have listened to the touching story of the toils and trials and privations of your domestic missionaries as it has been told by some of the Presbyteries that occupy missionary ground. We would that we were able to present to you as these narratives present to us the startling picture of the moral wastes that exist throughout our land, especially in the swelling populations of the great West. And we would that we could impress your minds as ours have been impressed with a view of the various *causes* and *influences* that tend upon the one hand to advance the cause of our Redeemer, and upon the other to retard the spread of true religion and to perpetuate those desolations over which some of the Presbyteries are called to mourn. But in the space usually allotted to the annual narrative of the Assembly it will not be practicable to accomplish all this, and we must be content to furnish a summary statement.

We are not permitted to tell at this time of such copious and extensive effusions of the Holy Ghost as it was the privilege of the last General Assembly to record. Revivals of religion and ingatherings of souls there have been during the past year in many portions of the Church, but not in such measure and to such an encouraging extent as during the year preceeding. And yet it is very satisfactory to notice that nearly all of the Presbyteries that reported revivals last year speak of the good work as having extended into the ecclesiastical year that now closes, and with scarcely an exception they state the gratifying fact that, so far as time and opportunity for testing them have been afforded, these revivals and their fruits appear to have been genuine. The statement made by nearly all of those Presbyteries is that the persons who were gathered into the churches as the fruits of those revivals have, with few exceptions, continued to "walk worthy of the vocation wherewith they are called." Special mention is also made of the fact that an increase of grace and a state of substantial general prosperity have resulted from those revivals in nearly all the congregations where they were enjoyed. In this respect the revivals of 1842-43 appear delightfully to contrast with many of those excitements which, like the wild fire of the prairie, leave blight and blackness behind them. And if this Assembly could send to the churches no other tidings of joy, it is matter of gladness and of gratitude that we are permitted to tell the churches that the gracious visitations of which they heard last year have not proved evanescent as the morning cloud or the early dew. A genuine revival of religion is not the scattering of a few drops that glitter for a moment in the beam, and then vanish before the ray that gave them beauty, but it is the opening of a living fountain whose streams of sacred influence expand and deepen as they flow and "make glad the city of our God." The sinner truly converted becomes in turn a soldier in the army of Immanuel, and from the moment that he joins the ranks it is his duty and his joy to perfect his own discipline, to push the triumphs of the cross, and to increase the number of the followers of the Lamb. And it is thus, to change the figure again, that the kingdom of our God is like leaven which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal till the whole was leavened. Such, to a good degree, we are encouraged to hope, were the numerous revivals reported last year. Their influence is still felt in the continued prosperity of the churches. But although the dispen-

sations of converting grace do not appear to have been so large during the last year as they were in the year preceeding, still we are permitted to tell of things whereof we are glad. In very many of the Presbyteries individual congregations have been revived, and in some works of grace have been extensive and powerful. The narratives of the following Presbyteries make mention of awakenings, and conversions, and revivals of religion in the hearts of God's people, some of them of a greater, some of a less extent: viz. Flint River, Albany, Hudson, New Lisbon, Indianapolis, Columbus, Maumee, West Jersey, Chilicothe, Troy, Carlisle, Newton, Raritan, Kaskaskia, Hopewell, St. Louis, Luzerne, Richland, and East Hanover. The Presbytery of Indianapolis speaks of a work of grace in several of their churches as being "solemn, silent, and powerful," and as having been followed with blessed results. And the Presbytery of West Jersey gives us the delightful information that all their churches have been refreshed.

Most of the churches report steady and ordinary accessions to the number of communicants, and some of them make mention of large additions. The following Presbyteries report ingatherings from the world, some of them specifying that the persons received to the communion of the churches were chiefly the fruit of revivals reported the preceding year: viz. Flint River, New Brunswick, Albany, Erie, North River, Steubenville, Troy, West Lexington, Elizabethtown, Clarion, Marion, Madison, Huntingdon, Orange, and Greenbrier.

With scarcely an exception the Presbyteries report that the churches under their care are harmonious, and that they enjoy a good degree of general prosperity. Nearly all the Presbyteries report that the attendance upon public worship upon the Lord's Day is as good as it has been in time past, and many Presbyteries specify a decided improvement in their congregations in this respect. This last is specially mentioned in the narratives of Northumberland, Raritan, North River, Zanesville, New Lisbon, and Flint River.

It is also gratifying to learn that many of the Presbyteries report a very encouraging increase of attention to weekly lectures, Bible-classes, and catechetical instruction. In regard to the last, it is pleasing to state that many of the Presbyterial narratives are particular to mention increased attention to the instruction of the youth of the Church in our excellent Catechisms. The Presbyteries of Chickasaw, Orange, Ohio, West Hanover, Palestine, Redstone, St. Clairsville, Washington, Zanesville, and some others report increased attention to the use of the Shorter Catechism in the instruction of youth. The greater number of the Presbyteries report that Sabbath-schools are still maintained in all or most of their congregations, and that these institutions still continue to be blessed of the Lord and to prove valuable auxiliaries in the great work of training up the children and youth of the Church and of the country in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Several of the Presbyteries make particular mention of a fact which must be pleasing to every judicious friend of Sabbath-school instruction—viz. that greater care is taken in the selection and appointment of Sabbath-school teachers than formerly—that parents and the more elderly and experienced members of the Church take a livelier interest in Sabbath-schools and are more ready to engage as teachers. The Assembly hail this as a good omen, and cannot pass it by without expressing the most unqualified approbation.

It is with much satisfaction that the General Assembly have learned that the Shorter Catechism has been very generally introduced into the Sabbath-schools, and that in very many a part or the whole of this excellent formulary is repeated once a month.

Most of the Southern Presbyteries make mention of encouraging success in the efforts that have been made for the colored population. In many places our ministers devote much time to preaching to the negroes and other-

wise instructing them. "One of the most pleasing facts," says the Presbytery of the Western District, "which we have to record is the general attention given to the colored population. All our ministers feel that the servant as well as the master is a portion of their charge, and are in the habit of devoting a portion of their time to this interesting people; and the only thing that could be called a revival of religion within our bounds during the last year has occurred amongst them. One dear brother who has during the year devoted every other Sabbath to the servants of his neighborhood has received about twenty-two into the Church. These he has organized into a church, and they have elected their own officers. Another brother reports fifteen added to his church, and other churches not so many." Similar statements are made by several of the Southern Presbyteries; and it appears that there is a growing interest in relation to the negroes, and no barrier to prevent their religious instruction exists except that arising from the great want of ministers; for it is the prevailing desire of both masters and servants that the latter should receive the gospel.

The Assembly is pleased to be able to state to the churches that from all parts of the land favorable accounts of the progress of the great temperance reformation have been received. Nearly all our Presbyteries make mention of the success that has attended this enterprise, and the Presbyteries of Potosi, Huntingdon, Clarion, Wooster, Steubenville, Bedford, Tuscaloosa, Londonderry, Michigan, Oxford, Hudson, and Albany speak of decidedly encouraging advances of the cause.

Another item of pleasing intelligence which the Assembly is permitted to transmit to the churches is that in many parts of the Church and country there is a return to a stricter observance of the Lord's Day. The Presbyteries of South Carolina, West Hanover, Oxford, New Castle, West Lexington, Hudson, and New Lisbon, whilst they still deplore a great defect in the manner in which it is observed in their bounds, yet speak of improvement in this respect, and they mention special efforts as having been made to call public attention to the moral obligation and civil and religious advantages of the holy day. The Presbytery of Palestine and several others deplore the extent of Sabbath desecration, and mention it as one of the most insuperable barriers to the progress of the gospel. It is pleasing, however, to be able to state that, so far as the Assembly is informed, this crying individual, social, and national sin is not on the increase. Upon several of the canals and railroads which are the thoroughfares of trade and travel Sabbath transportation has been diminished, and to the great honor of some transportation companies in Pennsylvania they have discontinued running their boats upon the Lord's Day. Nor is it less gratifying to be able to state that upon many mail routes throughout the country the Sabbath mails have been discontinued. And whilst recording this fact the Assembly would embrace the opportunity of pressing upon all church members and other friends of religion, of God, and of their country the duty of exerting all the influence which they can in a lawful way to rescue the sacred day from that dreadful degree of profanation which, to the danger and dishonor of the country and the desolation of the Church, so extensively prevails.

It is gratifying to the General Assembly to be able to state, as a part of the religious history of the past year, that the several Boards of the Church have prosecuted the great works severally committed to their care with diligence and success. The reports of the several Boards will be spread before the churches, and from them it is hoped every member of our beloved Church will feel it his duty to acquaint himself with the state and progress of these great enterprises. The compass of this narrative will permit us to say but a word in regard to each. The Board of Education reports a very large and

encouraging increase of the number of candidates under their care; and it is evident from the facts furnished in their report that, profiting by enlarged experience in this delicate and difficult yet very important work, they have brought the system upon which they proceed to a good degree of perfection, so that the benefactions of the churches for educational purposes can by the agency of this Board be applied with great efficiency, great economy, and impartiality. But, as will appear from their report, although the funds of this Board have increased, it has not been in proportion to the increase of valuable young men whom the Lord has inclined to seek the sacred office and who need aid in obtaining an education.

The Board of Domestic Missions have prosecuted their important work with their accustomed energy and success. This Board goes on increasing in usefulness, and if the churches would only furnish the men and the money in proportion to their means, this institution might multiply an hundred-fold the blessings which it pours from year to year over all our borders. Oh if our dear brethren in the more opulent churches could but hear the cries for help that are poured into the ears of this Board of our Church from a thousand destitute parts of our beloved land, and if the Assembly could but impart to all the churches the impression that these cries have made upon us, we cannot doubt that our brethren who have the means would pour into this department of the Lord's treasury the means of sending the bread of life to their perishing countrymen.

The Board of Foreign Missions have, with patience and great diligence, and with success fully commensurate with their means, been prosecuting the solemn and interesting work entrusted to their care. The Board is extending its plans and enlarging its operations as far and as fast as means are furnished by the churches. And although their funds are slowly increasing, it is not in the ratio of the crying necessities of the stations already established and the numerous doors that the providence of God has flung widely open amongst the heathen. The Assembly cannot doubt that if our brethren in the churches could have listened as we did to the touching and tearful and powerful appeals and statements of the self-denying and indefatigable Secretary of this Board, and if they could but hear the facts in regard to this enterprise which he laid before us, they would respond to the call for increased prayer and liberality in a way that would tell gloriously upon the interests of Messiah's kingdom. It is an interesting fact that one of the Presbyteries of the Synod of Northern India was represented upon the floor of the General Assembly—the Presbytery of Lodiana. And narratives of the state of religion within their bounds were received by the Assembly from the Presbyteries of Lodiana and Allahabad in that Synod. From these narratives, which are couched in the characteristically modest style of our missionaries, it appears that they are industriously and patiently prosecuting their self-denying labors amid many and great discouragements, but not without tokens to indicate the presence with them of Him who hath said, "Lo, I am with you alway." The work in which they have been engaged is chiefly preparatory work. Like "the voice of one crying in the wilderness," they have been saying, "Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight." They have been diligently engaged in acquiring the languages of the nations to which they have gone, establishing schools, translating and printing the Bible and other books and tracts, and in preaching the gospel, distributing books, and conversing with the people. By the reports it appears that special care is taken in the admission of members to the little churches which they have gathered amongst the heathen, and that for the most part those admitted to the communion of the Church have walked worthily. Upon some, however, they have been constrained to exercise discipline, and they have

done it with promptness and strictness, and, as they state, with happy effect. They are thus sowing the good seed: some precious fruit has already been gathered; they are raising up native teachers and preachers, and, we cannot but hope, are laying the foundations of glorious churches in those vast and populous regions. In Texas, too, and in the Indian and African stations the work is prosecuted with various degrees of present encouragement, and with the certain promise of a rich reaping if we faint not.

The Board of Publication has during the last year gone on in its career of usefulness with still increasing encouragement. It is furnishing a very valuable addition to the means by which sinners are to be converted and God's people are to grow in grace and Christian intelligence. They have managed the funds committed to their care with energy and economy, and it is pleasing to hear so many of the Presbyteries speak of the great blessings which have been conferred upon the churches by the instrumentality of this branch of our benevolent operations. A vast number of copies of our Psalms have been published and sold; and it would appear, from all the Assembly can learn, that a very great blessing is conferred upon the Church and the country by the sacred literature furnished by this Board.

The publications of the American Tract Society also continue to do much good. Several of our Presbyteries make mention of the benefits that have resulted from the distribution of these and the publications of our own Board by means of the colporteur system.

The Assembly would not close this account of the prosperous aspects of the religious history of the past year without an allusion to those religious bodies with which we maintain fraternal correspondence. On account (most probably) of the great distance of the place of our meeting, from the territory of the corresponding bodies, the General Assembly were not favored with the presence of any delegates from them. But we are happy to learn, through our delegates to several of those bodies, that the state of religion in most of them is in general prosperous, and that by some of the congregations in New England revivals of religion have been enjoyed. A very interesting communication was received from the Presbyterian Synod of Australia, and from that the churches may learn that the blessed principles of the gospel as held by us, and the scriptural form of government which we maintain, have extended to that remote portion of the earth, and there have produced their blessed fruits to the praise and glory of God's grace.

The General Assembly would feel that their Narrative of the State of Religion would be defective did they pass without notice the wonderful religious movement which took place in the Church of Scotland simultaneously with the meeting of our last General Assembly, and the developments of which have been progressing up to the present time. A notice of the reception of delegates from the Free Church of Scotland will be found in our minutes, and the Assembly will only state in this place that they look upon the exodus of the mother Church from the state of bondage in which she had been too long held as one of the most august events of our times—an event which has produced a mighty impression in favor of the Calvinistic faith and the Presbyterian form of government as being the purest, the freest, and the most benign form of Christianity; and an event which must, in its results, give “glory to God in the highest, peace on earth, and goodwill to men.”

Having now glanced at some of the more encouraging aspects of the last ecclesiastical year, it becomes the General Assembly, in faithfulness, to mention some of those adverse events and circumstances that cause the ways of Zion to mourn.

The Presbyteries of Logansport, Londonderry, Concord, and Bethel each

report the death of a minister, and those of Florida, Marion, and Concord report the death of many valuable ruling elders. Nor is it unlikely that other Presbyteries have suffered similar losses, although they have not reported them. In view of such bereavements, Zion may well exclaim, "Help, Lord, for the godly man ceaseth, for the faithful fail from among the children of men." A few of our Presbyteries speak of special discouragements and complain of the low state of religion, and many deplore the low standard of personal piety, the desecration of the Sabbath, the worldly conformity of professors of religion, and the absence of the reviving power of the divine Spirit. Various *causes* are assigned as tending to retard the progress of the kingdom of our Lord; and as the most valuable use of history is to furnish for the exigencies of the future lessons drawn from the experience of the past, it may not be amiss for the General Assembly briefly to state the deductions which they cannot but draw from the several narratives which they have been called to examine. This is done in order that the churches may be guarded against those things that appear to injure the cause of vital religion, and may be prompted to the more diligent use of the means of spiritual advancement. And—

1st. From the statements of several of the Presbyteries the Assembly is impressed with the belief that one great cause of paralyzing the energies of the Church and retarding the progress of the gospel at home and abroad is *the LOW STANDARD OF PERSONAL PIETY amongst church members*. In morals and religion men are not apt to rise above the prevailing standard. If that be low, their attainments will be lower still: "the salt will lose its savor," "the light that is in them will be darkness; and oh, how great that darkness!" And wherewith shall the earth be salted? How shall men give glory to our Father which is in heaven if our light do not so shine that they may see our good works? It is the low standard of piety that renders the Church powerless. So long as the unconverted can see little or no difference between themselves and Christian professors, they will reason thus: "These Christians profess to be at peace with God and on their way to heaven; their conduct and conversation are no better than ours; if they are safe, so are we." Thus does the Church continue to "heal the hurt of the daughter of my people slightly, saying, Peace, peace, when there is no peace." Connected with this low standard of personal piety is—

2d. A want of *active piety*. Christians throughout our churches seem too often to forget that Christ "gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify us unto himself, a *peculiar people zealous of good works*." Instead of being a *peculiar people*—peculiar for their *elevated holiness*, their devout love to God and to one another, their active benevolence—instead of being peculiar and distinguished from all other people by being "*zealous of good works*," it would appear from many of the narratives that our beloved professing brethren differ but too little in these respects from the people of the world around them. We are not so peculiar a people as we ought to be. We should be peculiar on account of brotherly love, peculiar for zeal, peculiar for our frequency and fervor in prayer, peculiar for our plans and our diligence in doing good, peculiar for our liberality to the cause of our Master. And this leads us to a

3d remark—viz. There appears to be too little of a *spirit of self-denial* in many parts of the Church. Self-denial is the very first term of discipleship. And yet it is manifest from the narratives of the Presbyteries and reports of our Boards that there can be but little self-denial on the part of the great mass of our people or our plans of benevolence would be better sustained.

"Deny thyself and take the cross,
Is the Redeemer's great command;"

and yet, alas! how few of the many thousands of our beloved communicants seem to think that they ought to make any sacrifice of personal comfort in order to befriend Christ and his cause! O brethren, if you could but hear the story of the trials and privations of the poor missionary as he suffers and toils for Christ and for souls, if in the person of his humble, faithful missionary you could see your Saviour suffering, you surely would feel constrained to deny yourselves to do him kindness. We have heard and we tell you that he is "an hungered." Oh feed him. "He is thirsty, give him drink. He is naked, clothe him. He is a stranger," wandering through our Western wilds or journeying beneath the sultry sun of the East; "take him in. He is sick, oh visit him." "Let the same mind be in you which was also in Jesus Christ;" and that was a spirit of self-denial. "For though he was rich, yet for our sakes he became poor." To this we add a

4th deduction from the historical facts before us—viz. There does not seem to be sufficient care on the part of ministers to teach, and on the part of the people to comprehend, the connection between the *facts*, the *doctrines*, and the *duties* of our blessed religion. This we infer from the complaints made of the languishing state of piety in some parts of the Church, and the low condition of active benevolence in almost all parts. The *facts* of our religion form the basis of its *doctrines*; the *doctrines* give rise to its *duties* and furnish the *motives*, and suggest the plans and means for the performance of those duties. God gave his Son for sinners. Christ obeyed, and died, and arose, and ascended, and intercedes for sinners. These are some of the *facts*. The blood of Jesus Christ cleanseth from all sin. We are justified by faith. We are chosen to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth. These are some of the *doctrines*; and the soul that truly believes these facts and doctrines must *love Christ*. That love *constraineth* the soul to holy, active obedience. It is the motive of a new life, and the great end of that life is to glorify God in doing good. If, dear brethren, we would look at the several parts of our religion in *their connection*, then "surely the love of Christ *would* constrain us, and we would live to Him who died for us." We would feel that every duty of religion was important, and would be urged to its faithful performance by the tenderest motives. We would feel that we were as much bound to pray for the spread of the gospel as to pray for own salvation; as much bound to "honor the Lord with our substance" as to keep the Sabbath; and that we have no more right to withhold from God what is his due than to rob a neighbor of his property; and thus feeling, we would arouse to our duties and perform them all in their due time and proper order. The ranks of the sacramental host would be filled with faithful, firm, courageous, well-disciplined troops, and shoulder to shoulder they would press onward in Immanuel's name, conquering and to conquer.

5. Once more. The religious history of the past year proves that there is a lack of *steadfast faith* and *persevering zeal* in the Church. Why should the blessed revivals reported last year have languished? Why did not the stream of salvation that then was seen to flow roll on and onward, still growing deeper and broader in its progress? Why did not the souls which we hoped were then converted, and the pious hearts that were then revived, go on from strength to strength, and by prayer and pious effort augment and roll onward the blessed tide of salvation? Why have not increasing thousands been converted through their instrumentality? And why have they not come with their silver and their gold with them to cause the treasury of the Lord to overflow? Alas! it is not because the Lord's hand is shortened, but because of the want of a *steadfast faith* and a *persevering zeal*. If the Church, thus revived, had kept hold of the girdle of divine faithfulness and

wrestled on, her name had been *Israel* indeed, and instead of mourning over a diminished measure of spiritual prosperity the song of rejoicing and the trump of triumph would be gladly sounding still. Let us then, beloved brethren, be wiser and more faithful in time to come. Let us by faith and prayer aim at the removal of all that hurts or annoys in God's holy mountain. Let us come with one accord to the help of the Lord against the mighty. Let us be "not slothful in business, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord." "In due season we shall reap if we faint not." "Peace be unto the brethren, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."

GEORGE JUNKIN, *Moderator*.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.

THE General Assembly has under its care *twenty-one* Synods, comprising *one hundred and twelve* Presbyteries, viz. :

1. The Synod of Albany, containing the *four* Presbyteries of Londonderry, Troy, Albany, and Columbia.
2. The Synod of Buffalo, containing the *three* Presbyteries of Steuben, Wyoming, and Ogdensburg.
3. The Synod of New York, containing the *six* Presbyteries of Hudson, North River, Bedford, Long Island, New York, and New York 2d.
4. The Synod of New Jersey, containing the *seven* Presbyteries of Elizabethtown, New Brunswick, Newton, Raritan, Susquehanna, West Jersey, and Luzerne.
5. The Synod of Philadelphia, containing the *eight* Presbyteries of Philadelphia, Philadelphia 2d, New Castle, Donegal, Baltimore, Carlisle, Huntingdon, and Northumberland.
6. The Synod of Pittsburgh, containing the *seven* Presbyteries of Redstone, Ohio, Erie, Beaver, Allegheny, Blairsville, and Clarion.
7. The Synod of Wheeling, containing the *four* Presbyteries of Steubenville, Washington, New Lisbon, and St. Clairsville.
8. The Synod of Ohio, containing the *seven* Presbyteries of Columbus, Marion, Zanesville, Richland, Wooster, Coshocton, and Hoeking.
9. The Synod of Cincinnati, containing the *six* Presbyteries of Chillicothe, Miami, Cincinnati, Oxford, Sidney, and Maumee.
10. The Synod of Indiana, containing the *five* Presbyteries of Salem, Vincennes, Madison, Crawfordsville, and Indianapolis.
11. The Synod of Northern Indiana, containing the *three* Presbyteries of Logansport, Michigan, and Lake.
12. The Synod of Illinois, containing the *six* Presbyteries of Kaskaskia, Sangamon, Schuyler, Peoria, Palestine, and Iowa.
13. The Synod of Missouri, containing the *five* Presbyteries of Missouri, St. Louis, Palmyra, Potosi, and Upper Missouri.
14. The Synod of Kentucky, containing the *five* Presbyteries of Louisville, Muhlenburg, Transylvania, West Lexington, and Ebenezer.
15. The Synod of Virginia, containing the *six* Presbyteries of Greenbrier, Lexington, Winchester, West Hanover, East Hanover, and Montgomery.
16. The Synod of North Carolina, containing the *three* Presbyteries of Orange, Fayetteville, and Concord.
17. The Synod of West Tennessee, containing the *five* Presbyteries of Holston, West Tennessee, Nashville, North Alabama, and Western District.

18. The Synod of South Carolina and Georgia, containing the *nine* Presbyteries of South Carolina, Bethel, Harmony, Charleston, Georgia, Hope-well, Flint River, Florida, and Cherokee.

19. The Synod of Alabama, containing the *three* Presbyteries of South Alabama, Tuscaloosa, and East Alabama.

20. The Synod of Mississippi, containing the *seven* Presbyteries of Mississippi, Louisiana, Clinton, Tombeckbee, Chickasaw, Arkansas, and Indian.

21. The Synod of Northern India, containing the *three* Presbyteries of Lodiana, Furrukabad, and Allahabad.

SUMMARY VIEW OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES, FOR 1844.

PRESBYTERIES.	STATED CLERKS OF PRESBYTERIES.																		
	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Com. added on Examination.	Certificate.	Total of Com- municants.	Adults Bap- tized.	Infants Bap- tized.	Funds raised for Dom. Mis- sions.	Funds raised for For. Mis- sions.	Funds raised for Education.	Funds raised for Board of Publication.	Funds raised for Theological Seminaries.	Commis- sion- ers' Fund.	Contingent Fund.	Miscellaneous Collections.		
Londonderry	21	...	...	10	15	20	1685	5	51	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$25	.....	.....	.....	Edward L. Parke.
Troy	11	1	7	10	186	40	1801	66	67	504	413	140	.....	.....	74	\$5 00	\$1233	.....	E. D. Mather.
Albany	38	7	14	24	484	96	4078	162	156	545	1392	566	\$46	.....	108	90	52 87	2254	John Clancy.
Columbia	7	...	...	3	.....	.....	142	.....	5	18	20	14	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Alfred Gardner.
Ogdensburg	6	1	4	7	21	6	869	.....	31	27	58	12	.....	8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Steuben	9	3	...	9	22	8	540	3	50	38	100	13	2	15	45	5 00	131	.....	Thomas Atken.
Wyoming	15	...	3	10	59	65	881	6	26	121	230	.....	.....	25	33	3 00	265	.....	Richard Kay.
Hudson	4	16	124	48	2068	40	106	232	293	293	34	.....	.....	71	20	8 53	186	.....	John H. Leggett.
North River	12	3	1	8	83	44	1107	34	59	167	460	13	.....	34	55	15 61	754	.....	John Johnston.
Belford	16	1	1	16	61	37	1456	26	38	378	717	120	.....	62	71	16 83	311	.....	Jacob Green.
Long Island	14	3	3	16	128	48	1905	57	78	135	423	162	.....	78	57	10 68	671	.....	James M'Dougall.
New York	26	9	11	13	141	255	4040	13	194	4796	6134	3943	657	1695	183	115 63	9536	.....	John M. Krebs, D.D.
New York 2d	11	1	6	5	45	44	942	1	76	796	2691	650	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Joseph McElroy, D.D.
Elizabethtown	28	5	6	21	426	127	4603	180	207	722	1019	706	.....	53	98	15 00	2266	.....	J. M. Huntington.
New Brunswick	37	9	8	21	277	203	4317	132	225	867	1317	428	.....	180	.....	26 41	1145	.....	Eli F. Cooley.
West Jersey	13	1	7	14	110	29	1543	52	63	475	354	375	.....	90	27	10 00	901	.....	S. Beach Jones.
Newton	27	3	...	25	186	71	2856	44	203	482	875	365	.....	117	32	11 00	1080	.....	John Gray.
Raritan	9	...	1	12	204	21	1590	104	138	70	165	69	.....	19	44	8 50	79	.....	P. O. Studdiford, D.D.
Susquehanna	11	...	2	15	31	18	655	22	55	26	51	17	.....	5	33	1 50	30	.....	Julius Foster.
Luzerne	9	1	4	13	151	40	977	29	89	277	77	40	.....	25	24	5 50	70	.....	R. Webster.
Philadelphia	27	10	21	18	308	184	4116	55	282	2033	3515	2222	500	675	136	70 55	12710	.....	Wm. M. Engles, D. D.
Philadelphia 2d	12	5	5	13	110	47	1139	41	86	181	429	126	.....	15	15	11 00	169	.....	William D. Howard.
Newcastle	19	5	4	21	158	40	2569	54	118	375	788	317	.....	17	35	15 00	665	.....	Robert P. Du Bois.
Danvers	15	4	3	22	172	30	1961	47	113	274	418	134	.....	17	17	4 00	457	.....	Alfred Nevins.
Baltimore	18	5	4	23	88	38	1760	9	83	816	1909	1048	.....	632	14	77 00	11627	.....	John C. Backus.
Carlisle	26	9	6	42	228	123	4265	23	200	365	1366	535	.....	77	49	19 00	571	.....	Thomas Creigh.
Huntingdon	22	...	7	34	371	113	4723	87	437	748	741	422	.....	71	90	15 00	250	.....	Wm. J. Gibson.
Northumberland	19	3	6	28	187	17	2936	25	143	264	514	90	.....	94	10	10 00	5543	.....	Isaac Grier.
Blairsville	22	1	5	38	288	98	3798	47	331	195	342	121	.....	233	61	8 00	12	.....	Watson Hughes.
Redstone	17	1	30	125	53	.....	2722	32	171	442	543	235	5	166	47	8 00	.....	.....	Samuel Wilson.
Ohio	38	2	18	32	284	156	3660	50	296	1262	1491	703	.....	1326	108	27 56	1793	.....	W. B. McIlvaine.

Peoria	6	...	1	16	18	21	302	1	35	34	22	2	.....	.....	...	.....	R. F. Breese.
Iowa	8	...	...	21	38	43	301	...	26	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	17	.....	James C. Sharon.
Missouri	7	...	...	16	30	41	892	35	67	40	32	.....	.....	.....	9	.....	Wm. G. Bell.
St. Louis	7	1	3	14	69	81	794	16	64	381	478	250	.....	210	47	10 00	519 A. Munson.
Palmyra	6	...	2	16	29	13	425	4	26	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7	2 00	S. C. McConnell.
Potosi	5	...	...	13	142	13	662	43	79	15	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	D. E. Y. Rice.
Upper Missouri.....	4	...	2	12	...	...	232	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	John L. Yantis.
Louisville	14	2	...	27	63	55	1854	9	71	821	650	518	.....	.....	20	.....	Joseph B. Hadden.
Muhlenburg	12	...	1	23	57	13	868	26	95	40	110	115	21	.....	23	.....	John Montgomery.
Transylvania	17	2	10	25	132	39	2494	52	94	1017	1001	1260	.....	.....	44	.....	Charles A. Campbell.
West Lexington	16	4	4	26	61	45	1935	24	66	525	390	622	.....	50	25	.....	R. C. Grundy.
Ebenezer	16	2	...	26	113	39	1010	30	89	219	192	144	.....	.....	35	3 00	Joseph Brown.
Greenbrier	12	1	7	21	90	19	1214	15	84	92	165	8	27	45	83	12 00	J. A. Van Lear.
Lexington	23	2	1	21	108	55	3363	35	106	279	390	202	31	237	106	12 00	W. M. Atkinson, D. D.
Winchester	15	5	6	29	74	18	1411	18	80	406	581	184	.....	76	223	.....	P. J. Sparrow.
West Hanover	31	4	4	35	61	48	1633	19	80	574	328	220	34	.....	116	.....	John Leyburn.
East Hanover	16	1	2	10	104	66	1283	27	112	650	1351	461	.....	58	89	2 50	H. H. Paine.
Montgomery	14	1	...	16	70	33	1101	21	51	91	113	23	.....	141	123	16 00	N. H. Harding, D. D.
Orange	28	1	8	42	113	45	2304	70	113	544	309	1	1	.....	54	.....	Colin McIver.
Fayetteville	22	4	10	43	82	9	2052	30	101	108	241	151	.....	5	121	12 00	Stephen Frontis.
Concord	30	4	4	52	172	28	5060	29	203	543	349	151	.....	.....	39	3 00	Samuel Y. Wyly.
Holston	8	...	...	14	106	15	921	30	105	550	297	27	.....	.....	36	.....	James M. Arnell.
West Tennessee	5	2	2	10	44	10	514	14	83	237	326	27	.....	.....	50	4 00	John T. Edgar, D. D.
Nashville	8	...	4	11	100	25	979	39	78	278	473	120	.....	.....	40	2 00	I. O. Stedman.
North Alabama	6	...	4	8	33	...	300	8	23	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	122	6 50	Henry M. Kerr.
Western District	15	1	5	29	73	95	1322	29	104	249	312	329	5	.....	.....	.....	John Douglas.
South Carolina	18	...	36	...	113	32	1932	33	112	137	79	266	.....	.....	62	3 50	William Brerly.
Bethel	11	3	5	21	113	31	2405	51	63	433	.....	146	.....	.....	254	.....	B. Gildersleeve.
Harmony	21	2	4	25	119	31	631	3	40	.....	733	965	.....	288	.....	.....	C. C. Jones.
Charleston	13	3	1	7	29	17	631	3	40	.....	100	90	.....	.....	...	3 50	Francis Bowman.
Georgia	9	2	1	9	12	2	295	10	2	80	100	137	.....	.....			J. C. Patterson.
Ilwaco	18	2	4	30	96	27	937	16	63	181	430	137	.....	.....	146	.....	Joshua Phelps.
Flint River	11	3	2	37	117	51	1448	28	121	214	236	57	.....	.....	...	7 00	A. B. McCorkle.
Florida	5	1	...	8	18	9	312	7	31	72	114	37	.....	.....	...	.....	T. S. Witherspoon.
Cherokee	4	3	...	12	53	18	538	15	44	.....	40	40	.....	.....	143	2 50	James N. Carothers.
South Alabama	12	3	2	19	94	42	1195	31	407	108	484	367	.....	.....	111	6 80	David Finley.
Tuscaloosa	14	2	...	26	65	16	860	30	53	192	347	140	.....	.....	133	.....	J. Chamberlain, D. D.
East Alabama	16	1	3	29	80	31	1177	24	93	89	126	100	.....	.....	48	10 05	S. M. Montgomery.
Mississippi	13	...	6	14	68	34	760	25	73	952	1123	501	86	.....	35	14 39	H. J. Bardwell.
Louisiana	15	2	3	15	107	98	915	44	113	2583	624	227	10	.....	42	5 50	
Clinton	9	1	1	12	92	60	457	23	61	73	25				42	3 00	
Combechee	10	...	21	56	27	460	12	47	106		54	28	60		75		

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	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Com. added on Examination.	Com. added on Certificate.	Total of Com- municants.	Adults Bap- tized.	Infants Bap- tized.	Funds raised for Domestic Missions.	Funds raised for Foreign Missions.	Funds raised for Education.	Funds raised for Board of Publication.	Funds raised for Theological Seminaries.	Commission- ers' Fund.	Contingent Fund.	Miscellaneous Collections.	
Chickasaw	10	..	2	24	53	43	501	25	28	265	88	11	.....	.....	58	8 00	.....	
Arkansas	5	..	..	6	18	12	113	5	5	54	.....	.....	.....	.....	15	.....	.....	
Indian	5	..	1	1	1	2	13	..	5	.....	35	23	20	.....	.....	.....	42	
Lodiana	4	..	..	1	..	..	.....	..	..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Furrukabad	4	..	..	1	5	1	28	2	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Allahabad	6	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
	1523	203	364	2156	12068	5388	166487	3257	10996	\$35 611	\$48 011	\$24330	\$1647	\$13 528	\$5304	\$783 54	\$82856	

GENERAL VIEW.

DURING the past ecclesiastical year the two new Synods of Buffalo and Northern Indiana have been organized, and the following new Presbyteries—viz. Cherokee, Montgomery, Potosi, Upper Missouri, Coshocton, Hocking, and Luzerne.

According to the reports received by the Stated Clerk, the increase of ministers has been *eighty-nine*; the increase of churches, *sixty-four*; and *twenty* licentiates and *fifty* candidates are reported more than were reported last year.

There have been added during the year, upon profession of their faith, 12,068, and the whole number reported as now in communion with the Church is 166,487. There have been reported—

Baptisms of adults	3287
“ of children	10,996
Money collected for religious purposes	\$212,070
Licensures	64
Ordinations	69
Installations	84
New churches organized	42
Dissolution of pastoral relation	51
Ministers received from other denominations	8
Ministers gone to other denominations	4

The following ministers are reported as having died during the year, viz.:

PRESBYTERIES.

Benjamin F. Staunton	West Hanover.
James S. Adams	Bethel.
John Robinson, D. D.	Concord.
James Buchanan	Logansport.
George Carrington	New York.
Robert W. Sawyer (Miss. to Africa)	Hudson.
Joshua Beer	New Lisbon.
John B. Patterson	Northumberland.
John Montgomery	Schuyler.
W. T. Venable	Louisville.
Samuel D. Blythe	West Jersey.
J. H. Smith	Orange.

There is still much reason to lament that the statistical reports of Presbyteries are in many instances exceedingly imperfect, and in the various items reported afford only the means of an approximation to the truth. Thus, for example, the missionaries of the Board of Domestic Missions alone, as we learn from the last annual report, mention the organization of *sixty* new churches, whereas the whole number reported through the tables is but *forty-two*; and while in the tables only \$48,000 are reported as received for Foreign Missions, the annual report of the Board notices the receipt of \$68,000. These defective reports can be corrected in the future only by the adoption by the several Presbyteries of a more exact and rigid rule than seems now to be in use. From the Presbyteries of South Carolina and Indian no reports whatever have been received, and many others have appended to their reports no historical account of changes as required.

WM. M. ENGLS,

Stated Clerk of the General Assembly.

1845.

CINCINNATI, Ohio, *May 15, 1845.*

THE General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America met, agreeably to appointment, in the First Presbyterian Church, in the city of Cincinnati, on Thursday, the 15th day of May, A. D. 1845, at 11 o'clock A. M., and was opened with a sermon by the Rev. George Junkin, D. D., Moderator of the last Assembly, from John viii. 32: "The truth shall make you free."

After the sermon the Moderator took the chair and opened the session with prayer.

The Permanent Clerk, from the Standing Committee of Commissions, reported that the following persons,* present, have been duly appointed and are hereby enrolled as Commissioners to this General Assembly, and laid their Commissions on the table, viz.:

I. OF THE SYNOD OF ALBANY.

PRESBYTERIES.	BISHOPS.	RULING ELDERS.
<i>Londonderry.</i>		
<i>Troy,</i>	E. D. Maltbie.	
<i>Albany,</i>	Albert T. Chester,	Geo. Davidson.
	John Clancy.	
<i>Columbia,</i>	David M. Smith (2).	

II. OF THE SYNOD OF BUFFALO.

<i>Ogdensburg.</i>		
<i>Steuben,</i>	Thomas Aitken,	James McNair.
<i>Wyoming.</i>		
<i>Buffalo City,</i>	John C. Lord, D. D. (1).	

III. OF THE SYNOD OF NEW YORK.

<i>Hudson,</i>	Wm. B. Reeve.	
<i>North River,</i>	James Harkness,	Peter V. B. Fowler.
<i>Bedford,</i>	Reuben Frame,	Abraham Smith.
<i>Long Island,</i>	James McDougall,	John White.
<i>New York,</i>	John M. Krebs, D. D.,	Walter Lowrie.
	John Goldsmith,	Micah Baldwin.
<i>New York 2d.</i>		

IV. OF THE SYNOD OF NEW JERSEY.

<i>Elizabethtown,</i>	Orlando L. Kirtland,	Obadiah Meeker.
	Charles K. Imbrie,	James F. Meeker.
<i>New Brunswick,</i>	Robert Davidson, D. D.,	Geo. W. Burroughs.
	Henry Perkins,	George Sinclair.
<i>West Jersey,</i>	Richard Curran.	
<i>Newton,</i>	George Junkin, D. D.,	Morgan Long.
	Andrew Tully,	Peter B. Shafer.

* A figure affixed to the name of a member shows that he was not enrolled by the Committee of Commissions in their report at the opening of the Assembly, but that he was subsequently enrolled and took his seat on that day of the sessions designated by the figure.

PRESBYTERIES.

Raritan,
Susquehanna,
Luzerne,

BISHOPS.

James M. Olmstead,
Charles C. Cross.
Ebenezer H. Snowden (6).

RULING ELDERS.

Henry Wynkoop (4).

V. OF THE SYNOD OF PHILADELPHIA.

<i>Philadelphia,</i>	Joseph H. Jones, D. D.,	James Dunlap.
	Matthew B. Hope.	
<i>Philadelphia 2d,</i>	Benj. F. Stead.	
<i>New Castle,</i>	Robert B. Belville.	
<i>Donegal,</i>	T. Marshall Boggs,	James Patterson (1).
<i>Baltimore,</i>	Elias Harrison,	James L. Davis (4).
<i>Carlisle,</i>	George Morris,	Alexander McCoy.
	John Moody.	
<i>Huntingdon,</i>	Wm. J. Gibson,	John Lytle.
<i>Northumberland,</i>	James Williamson (1),	John F. McCormick (1).

VI. OF THE SYNOD OF PITTSBURGH.

<i>Blairsville,</i>	Samuel M. McLung,	Wm. T. Smith (1).
	Alexander Donaldson.	
<i>Redstone,</i>	Wm. W. McClain,	Andrew Oliphant.
<i>Ohio,</i>	Alex. T. McGill, D. D.,	Francis G. Bailey.
	Thomas P. Gordon,	Robert C. Grier.
<i>Allegheny,</i>	Thomas W. Kerr,	Ezekiel Miller.
<i>Beaver,</i>	Algernon S. MacMaster,	Joseph Carson.
<i>Erie,</i>	Joseph T. Smith,	William Gordon (6).
<i>Clarion,</i>	John Core,	William Curl.

VII. OF THE SYNOD OF WHEELING.

<i>Washington,</i>	Henry R. Weed D. D.,	Thomas Thompson.
<i>St. Clairsville,</i>	Benjamin Mitchell,	James Milligan.
<i>Steuensville,</i>	James McKean,	Humphrey H. Leavitt.
<i>New Lisbon,</i>	James Robertson,	Hugh Gaston.

VIII. OF THE SYNOD OF OHIO.

<i>Columbus,</i>	Hiland Hulburd,	Elias Chester.
<i>Marion,</i>	John Pitkin,	Joseph Boyd.
<i>Zanesville,</i>	J. E. Alexander,	Robert Marshall.
<i>Richland,</i>	Luther Dodd,	Andrew Conn.
<i>Wooster,</i>	Varnum Noyes,	Samuel Brice.
<i>Coshocton,</i>	John D. Whitman,	Archibald Barton.
<i>Hocking,</i>	Wm. R. Gould,	Joseph P. Stuart.

IX. OF THE SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

<i>Chillicothe,</i>	William Burton,	Samuel E. Hibben.
<i>Miami,</i>	Samuel Newell,	Isaac Ward.
<i>Cincinnati,</i>	Nathan L. Rice, D. D.,	John D. Thorpe.
<i>Oxford,</i>	Adam B. Gilliland,	Matthias C. Williams.
<i>Sidney,</i>	Thomas B. Clark,	James Telford.
<i>Maumee,</i>	George Vaneman,	Frederick Henderson.

X. OF THE SYNOD OF INDIANA.

PRESBYTERIES.

Salem,
Vincennes,
Madison,
Crawfordsville,
Indianapolis,

BISHOPS.

James Wood, D. D.,
 Thomas Alexander (2),
 John F. Crowe, D. D.,
 John C. Eastman,
 David Monfort,

RULING ELDERS.

Charles Woodruff.
 Wm. Burch (4).
 Williamson Dunn.
 James Seller.
 James Blake.

XI. OF THE SYNOD OF NORTHERN INDIANA.

Logansport,
Michigan.
Lake,
Fort Wayne,

Edward W. Wright,

 Wm. K. Marshall,
 John H. Nevius (2),

William Brown.

 J. L. Jernegan (2).
 Samuel Hanna (2).

XII. OF THE SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.

Kaskaskia,
Sangamon,
Schuyler,
Palestine,
Peoria,
Iowa,

Alexander Ewing,
 Thomas A. Spillman.
 Samuel Wilson,
 Stephen Bliss.
 Samuel C. McCune.
 John Stocker.

James A. Ramsey.

 John Clarke.

XIII. OF THE SYNOD OF MISSOURI.

Missouri,
St. Louis,
Palmyra,
Potosi,
Upper Missouri,

H. P. Goodrich, D. D. (2).
 Wm. S. Potts, D. D. (2),
 S. C. McConnell (2).
 John F. Cowan (2),
 Wm. Dickson (2).

Isaac A. Dick.

 John D. Peers.

XIV. OF THE SYNOD OF KENTUCKY.

Louisville,
Muhlenburg,
Transylvania,
West Lexington,
Ebenezer,

David C. Proctor,
 Isaac Bard,
 John H. Brown,
 N. H. Hall,
 John C. Bayless,

Wm. Q. Morton.
 James J. Miles.
 John Barrett.
 Waller Bullock.
 James M. Preston (5).

XV. OF THE SYNOD OF VIRGINIA.

Greenbrier,
Lexington,
Winchester,
West Hanover,

East Hanover,
Montgomery,

Robert Osborn,
 John Hendren, D. D.,
 Robert S. Bell.
 Samuel J. Price,
 Francis S. Sampson,
 Samuel J. Cassells,
 James N. Lewis,

Robert Mitchell.
 John Alexander (3).

 Francis N. Watkins.
 A. D. Dickinson.
 Abel Head.
 John B. J. Logan.

XVI. OF THE SYNOD OF NORTH CAROLINA.

Orange,

Fayetteville,
Concord,

Jacob Doll,
 Drury Lacy,
 Neill McKay,
 Wm. A. Hall,
 H. B. Cunningham.

John Bullock.
 John Dickerson.
 Wm. McCallum.
 James Gillespie.

XVII. OF THE SYNOD OF WEST TENNESSEE.

PRESBYTERIES.

BISHOPS.

RULING ELDERS.

<i>Holston,</i>	Archibald A. Mathes.	
<i>West Tennessee.</i>	James M. Arnell,	Samuel H. Armstrong.
<i>Nashville,</i>	John T. Edgar, D. D.,	N. A. McNairy.
<i>North Alabama.</i>		
<i>Western District,</i>	George W. Coons (5).	

XVIII. OF THE SYNOD OF SOUTH CAROLINA AND GEORGIA.

<i>South Carolina,</i>	D. McNeill Turner,	Anthony G. Campbell.
<i>Bethel,</i>	Ferdinand Jacobs.	
<i>Harmony,</i>	George C. Greggs,	J. K. Douglas.
<i>Charleston,</i>	James H. Thornwell.	
<i>Georgia.</i>		
<i>Hopewell,</i>	Francis Bowman.	
<i>Flint River,</i>	Joseph Y. Alexander (3).	
<i>Florida.</i>		
<i>Cherokee,</i>	Nathaniel A. Pratt,	James Hoge.

XIX. OF THE SYNOD OF ALABAMA.

<i>South Alabama,</i>	Wm. T. Hamilton, D. D.,	Samuel B. Pickens.
<i>Tuscaloosa,</i>	Thomas Morrow,	Squire Lowry.
<i>East Alabama,</i>	John Warnock.	

XX. OF THE SYNOD OF MISSISSIPPI.

<i>Mississippi,</i>	Azariah R. Graves (2),	John Gunby.
<i>Louisiana,</i>	Abraham Hagaman,	George P. Lilly.
<i>Clinton,</i>	R. McInnis.	
<i>Tombecksee,</i>	Henry McDonald,	Duncan McDougall (6).
<i>Chickasaw.</i>	James Weatherby,	Ebenezer Kilpatrick (3).
<i>Arkansas.</i>		
<i>Indian.</i>		
<i>New Orleans,</i>	Jerome Twitchell (1).	

XXI. OF THE SYNOD OF NORTHERN INDIA.

In connection with the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

Lodiana.
Furrukabad.
Allahabad.

DELEGATES FROM CORRESPONDING BODIES.

<i>General Association of</i>	} Rev. Stephen Thurston.
<i>Connecticut.</i>	
<i>Evangelical Consociation of Rhode Island.</i>	
<i>General Association of</i>	
<i>Massachusetts.</i>	
<i>General Convention of</i>	
<i>Vermont.</i>	
<i>General Association of</i>	
<i>New Hampshire.</i>	
<i>General Conference of</i>	
<i>Maine,</i>	

General Synod of the
Reformed Protestant
Dutch Church, } Rev. John Knox, D. D.
General Synod of the
German Reformed
Church. }

The committee further reported that James Williamson, bishop, and John F. McCormiek, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Northumberland; James Patterson, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Donegal; and William T. Smith, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Blairsville, are present without commissions.

Also that the following persons have presented commissions from new Presbyteries—viz. John C. Lord, D. D., bishop, from the Presbytery of Buffalo City, and Jerome Twitchell, bishop, from the Presbytery of New Orleans.

The Stated Clerk reported that he had received official information of the organization of the following new Presbyteries—viz. Buffalo City by the Synod of Buffalo, and New Orleans by the Synod of Mississippi.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the foregoing new Presbyteries be enrolled, and that the Commissioners therefrom be admitted to their seats.

On motion, Messrs. Lacy, Crowe, A. T. Chester, P. B. Shafer, and James Gillespie were appointed a Committee of Elections, to whom were referred the claims of the Commissioners before named who are without commissions.

And then the Assembly took a recess until this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Thursday afternoon, 4 o'clock.

After recess the Assembly met and resumed business.

The Rev. John M. Krebs, D. D., was then elected Moderator.

Dr. Krebs hereupon renewed the tender of his resignation as Permanent Clerk, which had been postponed from last year by the request of the last Assembly; whereupon on motion it was

Resolved, That the resignation of Dr. Krebs be accepted, with a cordial acknowledgment on the part of the Assembly of the faithfulness and ability with which the duties of his office have been performed during the period of eight years past.

The Rev. Robert Davidson, D. D., was then unanimously elected Permanent Clerk, and the Rev. Matthew B. Hope, Temporary Clerk.

The standing docket was read by the Stated Clerk, and the printed Minutes of the last Assembly were distributed among the members.

It was ordered that five hundred copies of the roll of the Assembly be printed for the use of the members.

The Committee of Elections reported the following additional members—viz. the Rev. James Williamson and John F. McCormiek, ruling elder, of the Presbytery of Northumberland; James Patterson, ruling elder, of the Presbytery of Donegal; and William T. Smith, ruling elder, of the Presbytery of Blairsville.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That it be a standing order of this body to commence the morning sessions at 9 o'clock and close them at half-past 12, and to commence the afternoon sessions at half-past 3 and close them at 6.

The Assembly then adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday morning, May 16.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The roll was called, and the minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Commissions reported the following additional members—viz. Rev. Azariah R. Graves, of the Presbytery of Mississippi; J. L. Jernegan, ruling elder, of the Presbytery of Lake; Rev. Thomas Alexander, and William Burch, ruling elder, of the Presbytery of Vincennes; Rev. William Dickson, of the Presbytery of Upper Missouri; Rev. Samuel C. McConnell, of the Presbytery of Palmyra; Rev. Hiram P. Goodrich, D. D., of the Presbytery of Missouri; Rev. William S. Potts, D. D., of the Presbytery of St. Louis; Rev. John F. Cowan, of the Presbytery of Potosi.

The Stated Clerk reported that he had received official information of the organization of the new Presbytery of Fort Wayne, by the Synod of Northern Indiana; whereupon it was

Resolved, That the Presbytery aforesaid be enrolled.

The Moderator appointed the following standing committees—viz. :

On Bills and Overtures.—Rev. Messrs. Junkin, Rice, Lacy, Jones, Bowman, Lord, Belville, N. H. Hall, Frame, Burton; and Ruling Elders Grier, Fowler, Burroughs, McNairy, and Long.

Judicial Committee.—Rev. Messrs. Goldsmith, Weed, Monfort, Hamilton, Moody, Thornwell, Clancy, Harrison, Cassells, and Edgar; and Ruling Elders Leavitt, Watkins, Shafer, Marshall, and Davidson.

On Finance.—Rev. Messrs. Albert T. Chester, Imbrie, and McInnis; and Ruling Elders Baldwin and Bullock.

On Mileage.—Ruling Elders Messrs. Dunlap, John Dickenson, and Morton.

On Leave of Absence.—Rev. Messrs. Brown, Stead, McClain; and Ruling Elders Oliphant and S. Lowrie.

On Devotional Exercises.—Rev. Messrs. Williamson, Bell, Olmstead.

On the Narrative.—Rev. Messrs. Wood, Crowe, McDougall; and Ruling Elders McCoy and A. D. Dickinson.

On Foreign Correspondence.—Rev. Messrs. McGill, Hope, Bayless; and Ruling Elders Sinclair and Thope.

The following committees were appointed on Synodical records, viz. :

Albany—Rev. Messrs. Sampson and McClung; Ruling Elder Gaston.

Buffalo—Rev. Messrs. Wright and Turner; Ruling Elder Conn.

New York—Rev. Messrs. Alexander and McKay; Ruling Elder Lilly.

New Jersey—Rev. Messrs. Spillman and Mathes; Ruling Elder Stuart.

Philadelphia—Rev. Messrs. McKean and Proctor; Ruling Elder Gillespie.

Pittsburgh—Rev. Messrs. Tully and Jacobs; and Ruling Elder Pickens.

Wheeling—Rev. Messrs. Maltbie and Gregg; and Ruling Elder Gmby.

Ohio—Rev. Messrs. Perkins and Weatherby; and Ruling Elder O. Meeker.

Cincinnati—Rev. Messrs. Curran and Price; and Ruling Elder McNairy.

Indiana—Rev. Messrs. Kirtland and W. A. Hall; and Ruling Elder McCallum.

Northern Indiana—Rev. Messrs. Reeve and Pratt; and Ruling Elder Douglas.

Illinois—Rev. Messrs. Gibson and Twitchell; and Ruling Elder Campbell.

Missouri—Rev. Messrs. Arnell and Dodd, and Ruling Elder James Hoge.

Kentucky—Rev. Messrs. Harness and Ewing; and Ruling Elder Seller.

Virginia—Rev. Messrs. Morris and Kerr; and Ruling Elder Thompson.

North Carolina—Rev. Messrs. Gould and Aitkin; and Ruling Elder Barton.

West Tennessee—Rev. Messrs. Goodrich and Donaldson; and Ruling Elder Williams.

South Carolina and Georgia—Rev. Messrs. Newell and Cross; and Ruling Elder Miller.

Alabama—Rev. Messrs. Gordon and Pitkin; and Ruling Elder Blake.

Mississippi—Rev. Messrs. Marshall and Core; and Ruling Elder J. F. Meeker.

Messrs. Hope, Wood, and W. Lowrie were appointed a committee to make arrangements for the anniversaries of the Boards of the Church.

Certain overtures and memorials were presented, which were referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures. A communication was received from the Free Church of Scotland, and was referred to the same committee.

A letter was received from the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Ireland, and referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence. A letter from the delegate of the German Reformed Church to this body was read and referred to the same committee.

Reports were read from the Rev. H. A. Dumont, delegate to the Evangelical Consociation of Rhode Island; the Rev. R. McCartee, D. D., delegate to the General Conference of Maine; and the Rev. H. Perkins, delegate to the General Association of New Hampshire,—and ordered to be printed in the Appendix.

A letter was read from the Rev. Messrs. Robbins and Spring, the delegation appointed by the General Association of Connecticut to attend this meeting of the General Assembly, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix.

The annual report of the Directors of the Union Theological Seminary was read and ordered to be published in the Appendix.

The annual report of the Western Theological Seminary was presented, read, and referred to Messrs. McClain, Gordon, MacMaster, Smith, and Grier.

The report of the Treasurer of the Trustees of the General Assembly, and the report of the committee on raising funds for the Seminary at Princeton, were presented, and referred to the Committee of Finance.

On motion, Messrs. Olmstead, Belville, and A. Smith were appointed a committee to nominate delegates to foreign ecclesiastical bodies in correspondence with the General Assembly; and said committee were instructed to report on the expediency of continuing to send delegates to such bodies as have not for several years sent delegates to the General Assembly.

Several copies of the minutes of the German Reformed Church were placed on the table, which, on motion, were distributed among the several Boards of the Church.

The Assembly then determined to select a place for the next meeting; and it was agreed that the next Assembly shall meet in the Tenth Presbyterian Church, in the city of Philadelphia, at the usual time.

The docket was now taken up; and the report on the marriage question was made the second order of the day for next Monday morning, at 11 o'clock. On motion,

Resolved, That the annual sermon on Romanism be preached in the First Presbyterian Church, Cincinnati, by the Rev. N. L. Rice, D. D., on Tuesday evening next, at eight o'clock.

The committee on the anniversaries of the Boards reported, and their report was adopted, and is as follows—viz. that the Board of Education present their report on Monday next, at 10 o'clock A. M.; the Board of Foreign Missions, at eight o'clock P. M.; the Board of (Domestic) Missions on Tuesday, at 10 o'clock A. M.; and the Board of Publication on Wednesday, at 10 o'clock A. M.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk be instructed to append an index to the printed *Minutes* each year.

And then the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday afternoon.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The roll was called, and the minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The Committee on Commissions reported the following additional Commissioners—viz. the Rev. John H. Nevius and Samuel Hanna, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Fort Wayne; and the Rev. David M. Smith, from the Presbytery of Columbia.

The Synodical records were called for, and referred to the appropriate committees; and it was

Resolved, That the reports thereon be made the order of the day for Monday afternoon, at half-past three o'clock.

A communication from the Rev. John F. Wright, pastor of Wesley Chapel, requesting supplies for the pulpit of said chapel, was received, read, and referred to the Committee on Devotional Exercises.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overtures No. 1, 2, 4, 5, and 6, which were disposed of as follows, viz.:

Overture No. 1. The petition of the Synod of North Carolina and Georgia for a division into two Synods, and recommended that the request be granted. Whereupon the Assembly

Resolved, That the Synod of South Carolina and Georgia be, and it hereby is, divided into two Synods, to be styled, respectively, the Synod of South Carolina and the Synod of Georgia, and that the geographical limits of the Synod of South Carolina be those of the State of South Carolina; and that the geographical limits of the Synod of Georgia be those of the State of Georgia, together with the Territory of Florida—so far as this may not interfere with the limits of the Synod of Alabama.

Resolved, also, That the Synod of South Carolina be directed to meet in Pendleton on the first Thursday of November, 1845, at 11 o'clock A. M., and that the opening sermon be preached by the Rev. Edward Palmer as Moderator, and in case of his absence by the oldest minister present. And that the Synod of Georgia be directed to meet in Macon, Georgia, on the third Thursday of November, 1845, at seven o'clock P. M., and that the Rev. Thomas Goulding, D. D., be appointed to preach the opening sermon as Moderator, and in case of his absence the oldest minister present.

No. 2, No. 3, and No. 4 were placed on the docket.

Overture No. 5. Two papers—one from the Synod of Missouri, the other from the Presbytery of Ohio—requesting the removal of the Board of Missions to the West; which were referred to the committee hereafter to be appointed on the report of the Board of Missions.

Overture No. 6. A question from the Presbytery of Ohio, "Is baptism in the Church of Rome valid?" It was moved that the question be answered in the negative. Pending the discussion of the question the hour for adjournment arrived.

The Permanent Clerk reported the following items of judicial business, which were referred to the Judicial Committee, viz.:

1. A copy of Mr. McQueen's memorial to the Presbytery of Fayetteville.

2. Mr. McQueen's complaint to the General Assembly against the Presbytery of Fayetteville.

The Assembly being informed that several missionaries, with an Iowa chief, have arrived in this city on their way to Iowa, it was, on motion,

Resolved, That the chief aforesaid be introduced to the Assembly at 10 o'clock to-morrow morning, when he shall be addressed by the Moderator. And then the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday morning, May 17.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the calling of the roll be henceforward dispensed with.

The Committee on Commissions reported the following additional Commissioners—viz. the Rev. Joseph Y. Alexander, of the Presbytery of Flint River, and John Alexander (ruling elder), of the Presbytery of Lexington.

A communication to the Moderator from the pastor of Asbury Chapel, asking supplies for the pulpit of said chapel, was received, read, and referred to the Committee on Devotional Exercises.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises made a report, which was adopted, and is as follows, viz. :

That this Assembly celebrate the Lord's Supper in this church on next Lord's Day, at 3 o'clock, P. M., and that the order of exercises be as follows, viz. :

1. Psalmody and reading the Scriptures, by the senior pastor of the congregation, the Rev. Dr. Wilson.

2. Prayer before administering the elements, by Rev. Dr. Edgar.

3. Address and dispensing the elements, by Rev. N. H. Hall.

4. Address, after dispensing the elements, by Rev. Dr. Goodrich.

5. Prayer, psalmody, and benediction, by Dr. Hendren.

Further, that a prayer-meeting be held on Wednesday evening next, at eight o'clock, and that the order of the exercises be as follows, viz. :

1. Invocation and reading of the Scriptures, by the Moderator.

2. Psalmody, by Rev. Dr. Jones.

3. Address, by Rev. Dr. Knox.

4. Prayer, by Rev. Mr. Thurston.

5. Psalmody, by Rev. Mr. Perkins.

6. Address, by Rev. S. J. Cassells.

7. Prayer, by Rev. Prof. Thornwell.

8. Doxology and benediction, by Rev. Prof. Wood.

The committee further reported that they had provided supplies for Wesley and Asbury chapels.

The Committee on Delegations to Foreign Bodies in correspondence with us recommend that the Rev. Gardiner Spring, D. D., be appointed as a delegate to the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church, and the Rev. C. C. Cuyler, D. D., be his alternate.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported

Overture No. 3. A collection of petitions and memorials on the subject of slavery. The committee recommended that the petitions from Chillicothe and Donegal Presbyteries be read in the Assembly, and that a special committee of seven be appointed to whom all papers on the whole subject be referred. Said petitions were then read, and a committee appointed, consisting of Messrs. Rice, Lord, McGill, N. H. Hall, Lacy, Leavitt, and Dunlap.

Overture No. 7. A communication from the Presbytery of Columbus on amending the statistical tables published in the Appendix to the *Minutes* was read and referred to the Rev. Messrs. Gibson and Potts, in conjunction with the Stated Clerk.

Overture No. 8. An overture from the Synod of Cincinnati on instrumental music in churches, and also proposing a correction of the last minutes by inserting the word "Northern" before the word "Indiana." In regard to the former, the committee recommended that the Assembly take no order in the premises; whereupon, on motion, the matter was recommitted to said committee, and the second proposition was laid on the table.

The order of the day having arrived, the Iowa chief, *Na-che-ning-a*, which signifies "*No-heart-of-fear*," was introduced to the Assembly by the Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions, together with Mr. Irwin, a missionary under the care of the Board.

The chief, *Na-che-ning-a*, was then addressed by the Moderator in behalf of the Assembly, to which the chief replied in his own tongue, Mr. Irwin acting as interpreter. Mr. Irwin, being invited, then addressed the Assembly briefly, giving an account of the Iowa mission and of the friendly chief present.

On motion, a collection was taken up to aid in erecting a house for the chief and to send some presents of provisions and other articles to his tribe. Drs. Rice and Biggs were appointed a committee to take charge of any further contributions for the same object. Of the proceeds, amounting to \$167.84, the sum of \$100 was ordered to be given to the chief, and the balance, with five barrels of provisions, a donation from the citizens of Cincinnati, to be distributed among the tribe through the Board of Foreign Missions.

Prayer was then offered by the Moderator, and a solemn farewell taken by him of the chief *Na-che-ning-a* in the name of the Assembly.

Overture No. 9. A memorial from the Presbytery of Newton to send down again to the Presbyteries the amendment proposed in 1842 on the subject of demitting the ministerial office. The memorial was read and docketed.

Overture No. 10, on the admission of Charleston Union Presbytery, was read and docketed.

Overture No. 11. A memorial from the Presbytery of Cincinnati on marriage with a deceased wife's sister was laid on the table for the present.

The Finance Committee presented a report prepared for the committee on raising funds appointed in 1843, and recommended that said report be read; which was agreed to, and said report was placed on the docket, to be read hereafter.

The unfinished business of yesterday was resumed, pending which the hour for adjournment arrived.

A communication from the pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church in Newport, requesting supplies for his pulpit, was received, read, and referred to the Committee on Devotional Exercises.

And the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday afternoon.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Committee on Elections reported that they had received satisfactory evidence that Mr. Ebenezer Kilpatrick, ruling elder, was duly appointed a Commissioner to this Assembly by the Presbytery of Chickasaw. Whereupon Mr. Kilpatrick was enrolled.

The minutes were read and approved.

The unfinished business was resumed; and after some progress, on motion, The Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday morning, May 19.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Committee on Commissions reported as an additional Commissioner Henry Wynkoop, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Raritan.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Assembly being informed that the Commissioner from the Presbytery of Sidney had been robbed on his way of the money intended by the Presbytery for the Contingent Fund, it was on motion,

Resolved, That the printed *Minutes* be sent to the members of said Presbytery without charge.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported a memorial from Fort Wayne Presbytery on the transfer of the Board of Domestic Missions to the West, which was referred to the committee to be appointed on that subject. They also reported an overture from the Synod of South Carolina on the subject of a division into two Synods, which arrived too late to be acted on, the matter being already decided.

Overture No. 8 was placed on the docket.

Overture No. 13, a communication from the Presbyteries in Northern India stating that they had failed to constitute a Synod, and requesting further time; also requesting indulgence in varying in certain points from the constitutional discipline of the Church. It was referred to Messrs. Potts, Hendren, and Watkins.

Overture No. 14 was placed on the docket.

Overture No. 15, a communication from the General Association of New Hampshire on slavery, was referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

Overture No. 16, a communication from the Welsh Calvinistic Methodists inviting correspondence. It was referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

Overtures Nos. 17, 18, and 19 were placed on the docket.

The unfinished business was resumed, and considered until the order of the day arrived—viz. the report of the Board of Education—when said report was presented and read by the secretary of the Board. Two resolutions were then offered by Dr. Junkin, which, with the report, were referred to Drs. McGill, Junkin, and Edgar, and Ruling Elders McNairy and Baldwin.

The second order of the day—viz. the marriage question—was, on motion, postponed, to resume the unfinished business.

Pending the discussion, the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday afternoon.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Committee on Commissions reported that the Rev. Stephen Thurston had presented credentials as a delegate from the General Conference of Maine; and as an additional Commissioner, James D. Davis, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Baltimore.

The minutes were read and approved.

Reports on Synodical records were called up, being the order of the day. The records of the Synods of New York, New Jersey, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Wheeling, Ohio, Indiana, Northern Indiana, Illinois, Virginia, North Carolina, West Tennessee, South Carolina and Georgia, and Mississippi were approved.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Albany reported, recommending that the records be approved, with the following exceptions—viz.

1. The paging is all wrong after p. 184. 2. The Synod, which met at Troy,

October 10, 1843, was not opened with a sermon, as our book directs (Form of Government, c. xi. § 5). 3. The minutes of the proceedings of any stated meeting of the Synod seem not to be corrected till the following stated meeting. 4. In general, the records are not kept with sufficient fullness and care; words are improperly abridged, or repeated, or effaced with pencil mark, etc. The report was accepted and adopted.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Cincinnati reported, recommending that the records be approved, with the following exceptions—viz. 1. Frequent abbreviations—*e. g.* “Pby.” for “Presbytery”; “rec’d” for “received.” 2. The handwriting is careless, and, in some instances, blotted. 3. No margin is left, and in some instances the writing is carried below the line and down the margin, and will soon be worn away by the turning of the leaves. The report was accepted and approved.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Missouri reported, recommending approval, with the following exceptions—viz. 1. A defectiveness in the record on p. 102, consisting in the omission of the names of the absent members. This is at variance with their practice in former years, except in 1843; is contrary to the general usage of ecclesiastical bodies, and renders inconvenient the work of calling these absentees to account. 2. Verbal inaccuracies on pages 119, 130. On p. 119 the word “plains” is used for city—“on the plains and in the wilderness.” The intended antithesis is destroyed. On p. 130 it is recorded “that the last stated meeting of the Presbytery of Potosi having failed.” The two parts of the sentence are antagonistical. On p. 130, also, the Temporary Clerk signs his name as Stated Clerk. 3. A wrong decision of the Synod in the case of the Presbytery of Palmyra. The Synod severely censured the Presbytery for expunging a part of their minutes, when it seems that the minutes referred to were not a part of the Presbyterial record. The committee think the Synod correct in the principle which they laid down, but erred in its application. As a matter of taste and neatness it would have been better to have left the minutes unobliterated, but the Presbytery had the right to expunge it, provided it affected not the integrity of the record. The report was accepted and approved.

The committees on the records of the Synods of Buffalo, Kentucky, and Alabama reported that the records had not been put into their hands, and were discharged; and these Synods were enjoined to send up their records next year.

The unfinished business was resumed, and continued until the hour of adjournment, when the Assembly adjourned until this evening at 8 o’clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday evening, 8 o’clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the evening, when the annual report of the Board of Foreign Missions was presented by their Corresponding Secretary. Addresses were made, and the report was, on motion, referred to Messrs. Weed, Jones, Laey, Grier, and Morton.

And then the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday morning, May 20.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Committee on Commissions reported as an additional Commissioner Rev. George W. Coons, from the Presbytery of Western District.

The minutes were read and approved.

Reports were presented from the delegates to the Synod of the German

Reformed Church, the General Convention of Vermont, and the General Associations of Connecticut and Massachusetts; which were read, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix.

The thirty-third annual report of the Directors of the Theological Seminary at Princeton, and the twentieth report of the Trustees of the same Seminary, were presented, read, and referred to Messrs. Belville, Samuel Wilson, White, and Davis.

The unfinished business was resumed, and continued until the order of the day arrived, when the report of the Board of Missions was presented and read by their Corresponding Secretary, together with a report from the Committee on Church Extension; which last report was read in part, when the further reading was on motion postponed. The whole was referred to Messrs. Sampson, MacMaster, Harrison, Potts, Monfort, John Dickenson, and Bailey.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the Corresponding Secretary be further heard, agreeably to his own request, in behalf of the Board when the committee shall bring in their report.

The unfinished business was resumed, and after discussion the previous question was moved and sustained. The main question came up on the motion, Shall the inquiry of the Presbytery of Ohio, "Is baptism in the Church of Rome valid?" be answered in the negative? And the yeas and nays being demanded, were recorded and are as follows, viz.:

YEAS—Ministers.—Maltbie, A. T. Chester, Clancy, D. M. Smith, Reeve, Harkness, Frame, J. McDougall, Kirtland, Imbrie, R. Davidson. Perkins, Curran, Junkin, Tully, Olmstead, Corss, Jones, Stead, Belville, Boggs, Harrison, Morris, Moody, Gibson, Williamson, McClung, Donaldson, McClain, McGill, Gordon, Kerr, Core, Weed, McKean, Mitchell, Robertson, Hulburd, Pitkin, J. E. Alexander, Dodd, Noyes, Whitham, Gould, Newell, Rice, Gilliland, Clark, Vanaman, Wood, Thomas Alexander, Crowe, Eastman, Monfort, Wright, W. K. Marshall, Nevius, Ewing, Spilman, Wilson, Bliss, McCune, Stocker, Goodrich, Potts, McConnell, Cowan, Dickson, Proctor, Bard, Brown, N. H. Hall, Bayless, Osborn, Bell, Price, Sampson, Cassells, Lewis, Doll, Lacy, McKay, W. A. Hall, Cunningham, Mathes, Arnell, Edgar, Turner, Jacobs, Gregg, Thornwell, Bowman, J. Y. Alexander, Pratt, Hamilton, Morrow, Graves, Hagaman, McInnis, Weatherby, Twitchell.

Elders.—Fowler, A. Smith, J. White, W. Lowrie, Baldwin, O. Meeker, J. F. Meeker, Sinclair, Long, Shafer, Wynkoop, Dunlap, Patterson, Davis, McCoy, McCormick, W. T. Smith, Oliphant, Bailey, Miller, Carson, Carll, Thompson, Leavitt, Milligan, Gaston, E. Chester, Boyd, R. Marshall, Conn, Brice, Barton, Stuart, Ward, Thorpe, Williams, Telford, Henderson, Woodruff, Burch, Dunn, Seller, Blake, Brown, Hanna, Ramsey, J. Clark, Dick, Peers, Morton, Miles, Barrett, Bullock, Mitchell, J. Alexander, Watkins, A. D. Dickinson, Head, Logan, J. Dickenson, McCallum, Gillespie, Armstrong, McNairy, Campbell, Douglass, Hoge, Pickens, S. Lowrie, Gunby, Lilly, Kirkpatrick—173.

NAYS—Ministers.—Lord, Burton, Hendren, Warnock, McDonald. *Elders.*—George Davidson, McNair, Hibben—8.

NON LIQUET—Ministers.—Aitkin, Goldsmith, J. T. Smith. *Elders.*—Burroughs, Grier, Jernegan—6.

So the Assembly decided that baptism in the Church of Rome is not valid. And the Assembly then adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday afternoon.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Committee on Commissions reported as an additional Commissioner James M. Preston, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Ebenezer.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Nos. 20 and 21, which were placed on the docket.

The committee on the report of the Board of Foreign Missions reported in part, nominating individuals to fill vacancies in the Board, and recommending that the election be made the order of the day for to-morrow, at half-past nine A. M. The recommendation was adopted.

The committee on the report of the Directors of Princeton Theological Seminary and the report of the Trustees of the same reported, recommending that said reports be approved and printed in the Appendix. The recommendation was adopted.

The committee to nominate Directors of Princeton Theological Seminary reported certain nominations, and recommended that the election be made the order of the day for to-morrow, at half-past three P. M. The recommendation was adopted.

The committee on the eighteenth annual report of the Western Theological Seminary reported, recommending that said report be approved and printed in the Appendix to the *Minutes*, and that the act of incorporation, together with the supplement, be recognized and approved by the Assembly. They further reported nominations, and recommended that the election be made the order of the day immediately after the election of Directors for Princeton Seminary. The recommendations were adopted.

The unfinished business of the morning was taken up—viz. a motion to appoint a committee to draw up a minute expressive of the views of the Assembly upon the subject decided in the morning—viz. the invalidity of baptism in the Church of Rome. The motion was carried, and Messrs. Hamilton, Thornwell, and Junkin were appointed that committee.

The order of the day—namely, the marriage question—was postponed, and made the third order of the day for to-morrow afternoon.

The committee on Overture No. 3 presented a report, which was read, and is as follows, viz. :

The committee to whom were referred the memorials on the subject of slavery beg leave to submit the following report :

The memorialists may be divided into three classes, viz. :

1. Those which represent the system of slavery as it exists in these United States as a great evil, and pray this General Assembly to adopt measures for the amelioration of the condition of the slaves.

2. Those which ask the Assembly to receive memorials on the subject of slavery, to allow a full discussion of it, and to enjoin upon the members of our Church residing in States whose laws forbid the slaves being taught to read to seek by all lawful means the repeal of those laws.

3. Those which represent slavery as a moral evil, a heinous sin in the sight of God, calculated to bring upon the Church the curse of God, and calling for the exercise of discipline in the case of those who persist in maintaining or justifying the relation of master to slaves.

The question which is now unhappily agitating and dividing other branches of the Church, and which is pressed upon the attention of the Assembly by one of the three classes of memorialists just named, is, whether the holding of slaves is, under all circumstances, a heinous sin, calling for the discipline of the Church.

The Church of Christ is a spiritual body whose jurisdiction extends only to the religious faith and moral conduct of her members. She cannot legis-

late where Christ has not legislated, nor makes terms of membership which he has not made. The question, therefore, which this Assembly is called upon to decide, is this: Do the Scriptures teach that the holding of slaves, without regard to circumstances, is a sin, the renunciation of which should be made a condition of membership in the Church of Christ?

It is impossible to answer this question in the affirmative without contradicting some of the plainest declarations of the word of God. That slavery existed in the days of Christ and his apostles is an admitted fact; that they did not denounce the relation itself as sinful, as inconsistent with Christianity; that slaveholders were admitted to membership in the churches organized by the apostles; that whilst they were required to treat their slaves with kindness and as rational, accountable, immortal beings, and, if Christians, as brethren in the Lord, they were not commanded to emancipate them; that slaves were required to be "obedient to their masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, with singleness of heart as unto Christ,"—are facts which meet the eye of every reader of the New Testament. This Assembly cannot, therefore, denounce the holding of slaves as necessarily a heinous and scandalous sin, calculated to bring upon the Church the curse of God, without charging the apostles of Christ with conniving at such sin, introducing into the Church such sinners, and thus bringing upon them the curse of the Almighty.

In so saying, however, the Assembly are not to be understood as denying that there is evil connected with slavery. Much less do they approve those defective and oppressive laws by which, in some of the States, it is regulated. Nor would they by any means countenance the traffic in slaves for the sake of gain, the separation of husbands and wives, parents and children, for the sake of "filthy lucre" or for the convenience of the master, or cruel treatment of slaves in any respect. Every Christian and philanthropist certainly should seek by all peaceable and lawful means the repeal of unjust and oppressive laws, and the amendment of such as are defective, so as to protect the slaves from cruel treatment by wicked men and secure to them the right to receive religious instruction.

Nor is this Assembly to be understood as countenancing the idea that masters may regard their servants as *mere property*, and not as human beings, rational, accountable, immortal. The Scriptures prescribe not only the duties of servants, but of masters also, warning the latter to discharge those duties, "knowing that their Master is in heaven, neither is there respect of persons with him."

The Assembly intend simply to say that since Christ and his inspired apostles did not make the holding of slaves a bar to communion, we, as a court of Christ, have no authority to do so—since they did not attempt to remove it from the Church by legislation, we have no authority to legislate on the subject. We feel constrained, further, to say, that however desirable it may be to ameliorate the condition of the slaves in the Southern and Western States, or to remove slavery from our country, these objects, we are fully persuaded, can never be secured by ecclesiastical legislation. Much less can they be attained by those indiscriminate denunciations against slaveholders, without regard to their character or circumstances, which have to so great an extent characterized the movements of modern abolitionists; which, so far from removing the evils complained of, tend only to perpetuate and aggravate them.

The apostles of Christ sought to ameliorate the condition of slaves, not by denouncing and excommunicating their masters, but by teaching both masters and slaves the glorious doctrines of the gospel, and enjoining upon each

the discharge of their relative duties. Thus only can the Church of Christ, as such, now improve the condition of the slaves in our country.

As to the extent of the evils involved in slavery and the best methods of removing them, various opinions prevail, and neither the Scriptures nor our Constitution authorize this body to prescribe any particular course to be pursued by the churches under our care. The Assembly cannot but rejoice, however, to learn that the ministers and churches in the slaveholding States are awaking to a deeper sense of their obligation to extend to the slave population generally the means of grace, and many slaveholders not professedly religious favor this object. We earnestly exhort them to abound more and more in this good work. We would exhort every believing master to remember that his Master is also in heaven, and in view of all the circumstances in which he is placed to act in the spirit of the Golden Rule: "Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even the same to them."

In view of the above-stated principles and facts—

Resolved, 1st. That the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States was originally organized, and has since continued the bond of union in the Church, upon the conceded principle that the existence of domestic slavery, under the circumstances in which it is found in the Southern portion of the country, is no bar to Christian communion.

2d. That the petitions that ask the Assembly to make the holding of slaves in itself a matter of discipline do virtually require this judicatory to dissolve itself, and abandon the organization under which, by the divine blessing, it has so long prospered. The tendency is evidently to separate the Northern from the Southern portion of the Church—a result which every good citizen must deplore as tending to the dissolution of the Union of our beloved country, and which every enlightened Christian will oppose as bringing about a ruinous and unnecessary schism between brethren who maintain a common faith.

The yeas and nays, being ordered, were recorded as follows, viz.:

YEAS—Ministers.—Maltbie, D. M. Smith, Aitken, Lord, Reeve, Harkness, Frame, R. McDougall, Goldsmith, Kirtland, Imbrie, R. Davidson, Perkins, Curran, Junkin, Tully, Olmstead, Corss, Jones, Stead, Belville, Boggs, Harrison, Morris, Moody, Gibson, Williamson, McClung, Donaldson, McClain, McGill, T. P. Gordon, Kerr, J. T. Smith, Core, Weed, Mitchell, Hulburd, Pitkin, J. E. Alexander, Dodd, Gould, Burton, Newell, Rice, Clark, Vaneman, Wood, T. Alexander, Crowe, Monfort, Nevius, Ewing, Spilman, Wilson, McCune, Stocker, Goodrich, Potts, McConnell, Cowan, Dickson, Proctor, Bard, Brown, N. H. Hall, Bayless, Osborn, Hendren, Bell, Price, Sampson, Cassells, Lewis, Doll, Lacy, McKay, W. A. Hall, Cunningham, Mathes, Arnell, Edgar, Coons, Turner, Jacobs, Gregg, Thornwell, Bowman, J. Y. Alexander, Pratt, Hamilton, Morrow, Warnock, Graves, Hagaman, McInnis, McDonald, Weatherby, Twitchell.

Elders.—George Davidson, McNair, Fowler, A. Smith, White, W. Lowrie, Baldwin, O. Meeker, J. F. Meeker, Burroughs, Sinclair, Long, Shafer, Wynkoop, Dunlap, Patterson, McCoy, McCormick, W. T. Smith, Oliphant, Grier, Bailey, Carson, Carll, Leavitt, Milligan, E. Chester, Boyd, Conn, Breece, Stuart, Thorpe, Telford, Henderson, Woodruff, Burch, Dunn, Seller, Blake, Brown, Hanna, Ramsey, Clarke, Dick, Peers, Morton, Miles, Barret, Bullock, Mitchell, J. Alexander, Watkins, Dickinson, Head, Logan, John Bullock, J. Dickenson, McCallum, Gillespie, Armstrong, McNairy, Campbell, Douglas, Hoge, Pickens, S. Lowrie, Gunby, Lilly, Kilpatrick—168.

NAYS—Ministers.—McMaster, McKean, Robertson, Noyes, Whitham, Gililand, Eastman, Bliss.

Elders.—Miller, Gaston, Barton, Hibben, Williams—13.

NON LIQUET—*Ministers*.—Claney, Wright, Marshall—3.
J. L. Jernegan, ruling elder, was excused from voting.
And then the Assembly adjourned.
Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday morning, May 21.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Committee on Commissions reported as additional Commissioners Duncan McDougall, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Tombeckbee, and William Gordon, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Erie.

The minutes were read and approved.

The committee to whom was referred Overture No. 7, from the Presbytery of Columbus, on the subject of a more perfect designation of the employment of ministers without charge in Presbyterian statistical reports, recommended the following resolution, which was adopted, viz.:

Resolved, That the Presbyteries be hereafter required, in making their annual reports to the General Assembly, to place in the second column, opposite to the names of ministers without pastoral charge, as far as practicable, the nature of their employment; as, for instance, President of — College; Professor in — College; Professor in — Theological Seminary; Editor of —; Teacher; Corresponding Secretary or Agent of — Benevolent Institution or Board of the Church. If disqualified for pastoral duties by failure in health, to place opposite the name of such, *infirm health*, and in all other cases, simply, W. C.—i. e. without charge.

The order of the day was taken up, and the following persons were elected to fill vacancies in the Board of Directors of Foreign Missions:

MINISTERS.

Daniel McKinley,
Wm. S. Plumer, D. D.,
George Potts, D. D.,
J. W. Alexander, D. D.,
John N. C. Grier, D. D.,
Edward Smith,
Thomas Smyth, D. D.,
Gardiner Spring, D. D.,
E. P. Swift, D. D.,
W. D. Snodgrass, D. D.,
John Gray,
Joshua L. Wilson, D. D.,
Reuben Frame,
Samuel Miller, D. D.,
Alexander Maeklin.

LAYMEN.

A. W. Mitchell,
Thomas Pringle,
Ebenezer Platt,
Alexander Symington,
Charles S. Todd,
Samuel Winfree,
Abel Head,
Benjamin Emerson,
John D. Thorpe,
J. L. Jernegan,
Samuel Russell,
Peter V. B. Fowler,
Gilbert T. Snowden,
Robert L. Stuart,
W. Q. Morton.

The report of the Board of Publication was presented by their Corresponding Secretary, read, and referred to Messrs. Lord, Clancy, and Baldwin.

The committee to whom was referred Overture No. 13, being a request of certain members of the Presbyteries of Furrukabad and Allahabad, in Northern India, to give leave to vary from the Form of Government in certain particulars, reported, recommending the following minute, which, being amended, was adopted, viz.:

Whereas, The Presbyteries and Synods in the different fields of Foreign Missionary labor, formed by the missionaries under the care and in connection with this General Assembly, from the immature and forming state of the churches must of necessity be subject to some deviations from the letter of

the Form of Government, which was primarily designed for the churches in these United States; therefore

Resolved, That the Presbyteries in India must be left to their own discretion in the premises; and that, when they shall have organized a Synod, they adhere, as nearly as practicable in their circumstances, to our book, and report to this body all deviations which necessity may have compelled them to make.

The committee to nominate delegates to ecclesiastical bodies in connection with this Assembly further reported; and their report was accepted and adopted, and is as follows, viz.:

To the General Synod of the German Reformed Church.—Rev. James Williamson, principal, and Rev. John McNair, alternate.

To the General Associations of Connecticut and Massachusetts.—Rev. E. P. Humphrey, principal, and Rev. John Clancy, alternate.

To the General Association of New Hampshire.—Rev. Alexander McGill, D. D., principal, and Rev. Eli F. Cooley, alternate.

To the General Convention of Vermont.—Rev. Thomas L. Janeway, principal, and Rev. John F. Clark, alternate.

To the General Conference of Maine.—Rev. John D. Matthews, principal, and Rev. George Morris, alternate.

To the Evangelical Consociation of Rhode Island.—Rev. William Neill, D. D., principal, and Rev. Jacob Green, alternate.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That hereafter the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly be directed to construct, and have printed and bound in the latter part of each volume of the *Minutes*, a copious alphabetical index.

On motion, Overture No. 19—the communication from the Free Church of Scotland—was read, and referred to the Committee of Foreign Correspondence.

Overture No. 10, on the reannexation of Charleston Union Presbytery, was taken up, and the following minute was adopted—viz. Inasmuch as the subject brought to the notice of this House by memorial from the Charleston Union Presbytery is undergoing investigation by several Presbyteries within the limits of the Synod of South Carolina and Georgia; therefore

Resolved, That all consideration of this subject by this Assembly be indefinitely postponed.

The committee to whom was referred the report of the Board of Foreign Missions submitted the following resolutions, which were adopted, viz.:

1. *Resolved*, That the report of the Board of Foreign Missions be approved, and referred to the Executive Committee for publication and distribution among the churches as extensively as may be found desirable.

2. *Resolved*, That the interests of our mission in Northern India imperiously demand that the press at Lodiana, recently destroyed by fire, be re-established with as little delay as possible. We therefore earnestly request the friends of our cause, who have ability, to aid in repairing this loss without delay.

3. *Resolved*, That, having watched with deep interest the operations of the Board of Foreign Missions in papal Europe through the agency of the evangelical societies of Geneva and France, we recognize with gratitude the good providence of God in opening a door so safe and effectual through which we can operate on that important and interesting field; and we trust that the churches will place at the disposal of the Board a much larger sum to be employed in this department during the coming year.

4. *Resolved*, That the General Assembly still recognizes her obligation to labor and pray for the conversion of God's ancient and covenant people, the

Jews; and while we deem it necessary, for the interests of the missions now existing, to guard against diverting any portion of the funds at present received, still, we believe the Church possesses *ample means* to enable the Board at once to send a mission to the Jews without, in the least, stinting the missions already established.

5. *Resolved*, That the facts and statements contained in this report furnish abundant ground for encouragement and devout gratitude to the great Head of the Church, who, notwithstanding all our remissness and manifold unworthiness, has condescended to grant us some measure of success; we also perceive in these tokens of divine favor, and in the new and almost boundless fields opening before us, all bright with promise, a reason for greatly increased liberality and prayer in relation to this enterprise.

6. *Resolved*, That the Church has abundant means to sustain all her missions, either established or projected, and even to extend her operations far beyond anything we have yet attempted. All that is necessary is that our members should all realize their obligations to this cause, and come forward with one heart and one mind to its support.

7. *Resolved*, That we have heard with the deepest mortification and regret of the delinquency of more than half our churches during the past year; and we would here express our *solemn conviction* that the time has now come when no *congregation*, and scarcely any member, can refrain from giving something systematically to this object without incurring fearful guilt.

8. *Resolved*, That we regard it of the utmost importance to this cause that the periodicals of the Board be more generally circulated among our church members; the General Assembly would therefore *enjoin* it upon all her ministers and elders to see to it that, as far as possible, the *Missionary Chronicle* be introduced into every family in our connection.

9. *Resolved*, That inasmuch as Paul may plant and Apollos water, but God only can give the increase, therefore we recommend to all our congregations to cherish a deeper sense of dependence upon the Divine Spirit, and that they give themselves more and more to prayer, that the blessing of God may crown with success all our plans and all our efforts. Especially do we hope that this cause will be remembered with abiding and increasing interest at the monthly concert.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the thanks of this Assembly are hereby tendered to the Rev. Dr. Rice for the able and appropriate discourse delivered by him last evening, agreeably to the appointment of the last General Assembly.

The Committee on Mileage reported the case of Mr. Smith of the Presbytery of Columbia; whereupon it was

Resolved, That Mr. Smith have the privilege of drawing from the Commissioners' Fund according to his mileage, on condition that he be accountable to the Committee on Mileage for the sum of ten dollars.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave of absence to Elder Archibald Barton, which was approved.

The Rev. Professor Thornwell was elected preacher of the next annual sermon on popery, and the Rev. Professor Green, his alternate. And it was

Resolved, That the time for the delivery of said sermon be the evening of Tuesday immediately succeeding the third Thursday of May next.

Mr. Robertson gave notice of his intention, on behalf of himself and others, to enter a dissent, with reasons, from the decision of the Assembly on Overture No. 6.

An invitation was received and read from the Agent of the American

Sunday-School Union to attend an anniversary meeting of the society on Thursday evening.

The docket was taken up, and Overture No. 8, from the Synod of Cincinnati on instrumental music, was read, and the following minute, recommended by the Committee on Bills and Overtures, was adopted, viz. :

Whereas, by our Constitution (Form of Government chap. ix. sect. 6, and Directory for Worship, chap. iv. sect. 4) the whole internal arrangement of a church as to worship and order is committed to the minister and Session ; therefore,

Resolved, That this Assembly do not feel themselves called upon and obliged to take any further order on this subject, but leave to each Session the delicate and important matter of arranging and conducting the music as to them shall seem most for edification, recommending great caution, prudence, and forbearance in regard to it.

The committee on parochial schools appointed by the last Assembly reported, requesting longer time, and were continued. Messrs. Hoge and Monfort tendered their resignations, and Drs. Phillips and Snodgrass were appointed on the committee in their place.

And the Assembly then adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday afternoon.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The order of the day was taken up, and the following persons were elected to fill vacancies in the Board of Directors of the Theological Seminary at Princeton :

MINISTERS.

J. McDowell, D. D.,
N. H. Rice, D. D.,
W. M. Engles, D. D.,
C. C. Cuyler, D. D.,
G. Potts, D. D.,
J. Johnston,
J. N. Campbell, D. D.

ELDERS.

L. W. R. Phillips,
M. L. Bevan,
Ebenezer Platt.

In the Board of Directors of the Western Theological Seminary :

MINISTERS.

Francis Herron, D. D.,
E. P. Swift, D. D.,
M. Brown, D. D.,
W. B. McIlvain,
John Stockton,
John Kerr,
James Alexander.

ELDERS.

Luke Loomis,
Henry Hannen, M. D.,
Benj. Williams.

The third order of the day was, on motion, postponed, to hear a report from a committee appointed last year on raising funds for salaries and scholarships in the Seminary at Princeton. The report was accepted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix, and the committee were continued.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the Assembly approve of the appointment of the Rev. Cortlandt Van Rensselaer in behalf of the Princeton Seminary, and cordially

commend his generous, disinterested, and highly important agency to the favorable regard of those Synods within whose bounds he shall make his collections.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day—viz. the report to the last Assembly on the marriage question, referred to this Assembly, and found in the Appendix to the *Minutes*, vol. x. page 422.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the consideration of the report be indefinitely postponed.

It was then moved that the General Assembly overture to the Presbyteries the following question: "Shall the last sentence in the fourth section of the twenty-fourth chapter of the Confession of Faith—to wit: 'The man may not marry any of his wife's kindred nearer in blood than he may of his own, nor the woman of her husband's kindred nearer in blood than of her own'—be stricken out?" and that they be required to send up an affirmative or negative answer to the next General Assembly.

It was moved to postpone indefinitely the foregoing motion.

Pending the discussion the hour of adjournment arrived.

An invitation to visit the Cincinnati Orphan Asylum was received, read, and accepted.

An invitation to visit the exhibition of the painting of Christ Healing the Sick was received and read.

And then the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday morning, May 22.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Committee on Commissions reported as an additional Commissioner the Rev. Ebenezer Hazard Snowden, from the Presbytery of Luzerne.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had granted leave to Messrs. Nevius and Grier.

The committee on the report of the Board of Publication presented a report, which was read and adopted, and is as follows, viz.:

The committee to whom was referred the annual report of the Board of Publication respectfully recommend the adoption of the following resolutions by the Assembly:

1. *Resolved*, That the annual report of the Board of Publication be approved, and that it be printed and circulated in the usual way.

2. *Resolved*, That in the opinion of the Assembly the affairs of the Board have been managed with great prudence and fidelity, and the increase during the past year in the sale and circulation of their volumes is a gratifying proof of the growing interest of the Church and the public in the enterprise and the efficiency of the Board and its officers. The Assembly are of opinion that the increase of piety in the churches, the maintenance of sound doctrine, and the future progress and influence of our beloved Zion are intimately connected with the prosperity of the work committed to the Board of Publication. The Assembly recognize the good hand of God in the organization and continued success of an enterprise well adapted to counteract the prevailing evils of the time, to perpetuate the memory and the faith of the Reformers, and to oppose a bulwark against errors which come in like a flood; and they cordially commend the Board and the institution committed to their charge to the confidence, the patronage, and the prayers of the Church.

3. *Resolved*, That the Assembly approve of the rigid adherence of the Board to the terms of sale which were originally adopted, and to which their present unembarrassed and prosperous condition is, under the divine Provi-

dence, mainly attributable; and while, in view of the wants of the West and the representation of several Presbyteries of the importance of depositories at different points, the Assembly would earnestly recommend, as former Assemblies have done, the establishment of depositories by Synods by raising the requisite funds to purchase the books required, yet they by no means consider it advisable to hazard the solvency, and perhaps the existence, of the Board of Publication by advising or directing the forming of depositories at their own risk and expense at the various points where they are demanded. The success of this great enterprise ought not to be put in jeopardy in its infancy by an extension of its operations beyond its means, or by suffering its capital to lie idle in depositories or to be risked by doubtful credits. With prudent management now the time may come when the means of the Board will justify an extension of its operations, either in the manner suggested or in some other way; but for the present the Assembly are clear in the opinion that the risk of establishing depositories should not be imposed upon the Board. This is not the only—perhaps not the most speedy or effectual—way of supplying the demand for books. Persons have been found in different parts of the country willing to purchase the volumes of the Board at the very low prices at which they are offered, and distribute them as colporteurs for the profits arising from the sales; and the Assembly believe the system may be immediately and successfully adopted in almost every part of the United States. They recommend this method of circulating the books as worthy of particular attention. The Assembly believe that it will not be difficult to find individuals within the bounds of all the Synods who may be induced to engage in this enterprise, and who would receive a sufficient compensation from the profits of a resale of the volumes of the Board while availing themselves of an opportunity of great usefulness.

4. *Resolved*, That it appearing from the report of the Board of Publication that they have not received sufficient encouragement to authorize the printing of the *Minutes* of the General Assembly from its first meeting in 1789, agreeably to the recommendations of the Assembly of 1843, it is requested by this Assembly that the Board prepare and publish, as soon as practicable, a full digest of all the important decisions of this judicatory from its origin to the present time, with a copious and carefully arranged index, to take the place of the imperfect digest now in use.

5. *Resolved*, That the Board of Publication, agreeably to their request, are hereby authorized to apply, whenever they may think proper, for “an act of incorporation” conferring such corporate powers to receive and hold property by devise or deed as they may deem necessary in the circumstances, and as the legislature may be disposed to grant; provided always, that such act of incorporation, so to be obtained, shall be so framed as to recognize the immediate responsibility of the Board to the General Assembly, and shall in no manner change or vary their connection with this body. All of which is respectfully submitted, etc.

The committee submitted a list of nominations for vacancies in the Board of Directors; and the election was made the order of the day for half-past three o'clock this afternoon.

The Committee on Mileage presented a report, which was read and adopted, and is as follows, viz.:

The Committee on Mileage report that there has been paid to the Treasurer, on account of the Commissioners' Fund, the sum of \$121.82; that there have been 9555 miles travelled by the Commissioners who claim mileage in coming to the present Assembly, which at one cent and two eight-tenths mills per mile will make \$121.82; and therefore recommend that the Trustees of the General Assembly be directed to draw an order on their Treasurer

for this amount, and that they be directed to pay the same to the several persons named in their report, in the proportion therein stated.

The unfinished business was resumed.

Pending the discussion, the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday afternoon.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day, when the following persons were elected to fill vacancies in the Board of Publication :

MINISTERS.

H. R. Wilson, D. D.,
Nicholas Murray, D. D.,
Samuel Miller, D. D.,
Joshua Moore,
G. W. Musgrave,
W. C. Matthews,
J. W. McKennan,
James Morrison,
Wm. Loughridge,
H. A. Boardman, D. D.,
J. C. Backus,
John Hall,
Thomas L. Janeway.

LAYMEN.

Samuel B. Molyneaux,
J. B. Martin,
R. H. McEwen,
R. McNair,
Matthew Newkirk,
P. Boyd,
J. W. Platt,
George Douglass,
James Russell,
Charles Collins,
James N. Dickson,
Wm. Dulty,
Henry C. Blair.

Mr. Robertson read the dissent of himself and others from the action of the Assembly upon Overture No. 6; which paper was, on motion, admitted to record, and is as follows, viz. :

From the action of the General Assembly in adopting the report of the Committee on Overture No. 6 on the memorials on the subject of slavery, we the subscribers ask leave respectfully to dissent, because we think some parts of the report seem to contravene the standing testimony of the Presbyterian Church on the subject of slavery, particularly the testimony uttered in the year 1818.

JAMES ROBERTSON,
ADAM B. GILLILAND,
JAMES MCKEAN,
SAMUEL E. HIBBEN,
M. C. WILLIAMS,
JOHN C. EASTMAN,
JOHN D. WHITHAM.

The unfinished business was resumed; pending which, the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday morning, May 23.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had granted leave to Messrs. Williams and Bullock; which was approved.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 22, being a request from the Board of Foreign Missions to the Assembly to amend the

fourth article of the Constitution of the Board, by adding after the word "treasurer" in the second line the following: "with as many members of the Board as may be present." On motion, the amendment was adopted.

The committee reported Overture No. 23 on the better observance of the Sabbath; which was, on motion, postponed till after the Narrative shall have been read.

The unfinished business was resumed.

The previous question being called for and sustained, the proposition to overture to the Presbyteries the following question: "Shall the last sentence in the 4th section of the 24th chapter of the Confession of Faith, to wit: 'The man may not marry any of his wife's kindred nearer in blood than he may of his own; nor the woman of her husband's kindred nearer in blood than of her own,' be stricken out?" was decided; and the yeas and nays being called for, were recorded as follows, viz.:

YEAS—*Ministers*.—Maltbie, A. T. Chester, Clancy, D. M. Smith, Reeve, Harkness, Frame, McDougall, Goldsmith, Kirtland, Imbrie, R. Davidson, Perkins, Curran, Snowden, Hope, Stead, Morris, McClung, McGill, Donaldson, T. P. Gordon, Kerr, MacMaster, Core, Mitchell, Hulburd, Whitham, Burton, Thos. Alexander, Eastman, Wright, W. K. Marshall, Bliss, Stocker, J. H. Brown, N. H. Hall, Lewis, Doll, Koons, Bowman, Pratt, Hamilton, Morrow, Graves, Hagaman, McInnis, McDonald, Weatherby, Twitchell.

Elders.—McNair, Fowler, A. Smith, White, W. Lowrie, Baldwin, O. Meeker, J. F. Meeker, Burroughs, Sinclair, Wynkoop, McCoy, Miller, Carson, McCormick, Curll, Leavitt, Boyd, R. Marshall, Hibben, Woodruff, Burch, Dunn, Seller, Jernegan, Peers, Miles, Barret, Gillespie, Hoge, Pickens, Lilly, Kilpatrick—83.

NAYS—*Ministers*.—Lord, Junkin, Tully, Corss, Jones, Belville, Boggs, Harrison, Moody, Gibson, Williamson, McClain, J. T. Smith, Weed, McKean, Robertson, Pitkin, J. E. Alexander, Dodd, Noyes, Gould, Newell, Rice, Gililand, Thos. B. Clark, Vaneman, Wood, Crowe, Monfort, Ewing, Spilman, Wilson, Potts, McConnell, Cowan, Dickson, Proctor, Bard, Bayless, Osborn, Hendren, Bell, Price, Sampson, Cassells, Laey, McKay, W. A. Hall, Cunningham, Mathes, Edgar, Turner, Jacobs, Gregg, Thornwell, Joseph Y. Alexander, Warnock.

Elders.—Geo. Davidson, Long, Shafer, Dunlap, Patterson, Davis, Lytle, W. T. Smith, Oliphant, Gordon, Thompson, Gaston, E. Chester, Conn, Breece, Stuart, Ward, Thorpe, Telford, Henderson, Blake, Ramsey, John Clarke, Morton, Bullock, Preston, Mitchell, John Alexander, Watkins, A. D. Dickinson, Head, Logan, John Dickenson, McCallum, Armstrong, McNairy, Campbell, Douglas, S. Lowrie, Gunby, McDougall—98.

NON LIQUET—*Elder*.—Dick—1.

The Rev. Mr. Olmstead was excused from voting.

So the proposition was lost.

On motion, Messrs. Edgar, Lord, MacMaster, Jones, and Leavitt were appointed a committee to bring in a minute expressive of the views of the Assembly in regard to the question just decided.

And then the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday afternoon.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Judicial Committee reported a complaint and memorial of Archibald McQueen against the Presbytery of Fayetteville, and recommended that the

complaint and memorial be taken up in the order prescribed in the book. They were, on motion, placed on the docket.

The committee on the report of the Board of Missions, church extension, and Overture No. 5 presented a report, which was accepted, and considered seriatim.

On motion, the memorials of the Synod of Missouri and the Presbyteries of Salem and Fort Wayne, embraced in Overture No. 5, praying a change in the constitution and location of the Board of Missions, were read.

The discussion was arrested by the arrival of the hour of adjournment.

The committee on the report of the Board of Education presented a report, which was read and put on the docket.

The Rev. Dr. Knox, delegate from the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church, took leave of the Assembly.

An invitation was received and read from Professor Mitchell to visit the Cincinnati Observatory. The invitation was accepted for to-morrow afternoon at 5 o'clock.

And then the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday morning, May 24.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had granted leave to Messrs. Wood and Robertson, till Monday afternoon, and to Mr. Bard for the remainder of the session.

The Committee on Finance presented a report, which was received, read, and put on the docket.

The committee further reported a paper relating to the subject from the chairman of the committee appointed by a former Assembly, and recommended that said paper be printed in the public journals.

The committee appointed to draft a minute expressive of the sense of the House upon the marriage question presented a report, which was read and put on the docket.

The Rev. Mr. Fitch, Agent of the American Bible Society, was heard in behalf of said society. After which, upon motion, it was

Resolved, That this assembly learn with pleasure the increasing prosperity enjoyed by the American Bible Society, and particularly in respect to its operations at home.

Resolved, That we regard with deep interest, and commend with our warmest approbation and fervent prayers, its efforts to supply our entire population, Protestant and Catholic, native and foreign, with the Bible.

The unfinished business was resumed.

Pending which, the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday morning, May 26.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had granted leave to Messrs. Crowe, Marshall, and Elias Chester.

On motion, Overture No. 14, being a memorial from the Presbytery of Muhlenburg praying for the erection of a new Synod, was taken up and read. On motion, it was

Resolved, That the following Overture be sent down to the Presbyteries composing the Synods of Kentucky and West Tennessee—viz. The ex-

pediency of forming a new Synod, to be composed of the Presbytery of Muhlenburg, now of the Synod of Kentucky, and the Presbyteries of West Tennessee and Nashville, now of the Synod of West Tennessee, to be acted upon by those Presbyteries, and referred by them to the next General Assembly.

The unfinished business was resumed, and continued till the arrival of the hour of adjournment.

On motion, the rule was suspended, and it was

Resolved, That the Assembly meet henceforth at the hour of three in the afternoon.

On motion, the following persons were elected to fill vacancies in the Board of Education :

MINISTERS.

A. Alexander, D. D.,
S. S. Davis,
A. Macklin,
W. S. Plumer, D. D.,
J. McDowell, D. D.,
J. N. Campbell, D. D.,
N. Murray, D. D.,
M. B. Hope, *vice* Rev. S. S.
Blythe, *dec'd*.

LAYMEN.

Alexander Henry,
A. W. Mitchell, M. D.,
M. Newkirk,
J. B. Mitchell,
Wm. Harris, M. D.,
Wm. Nesbit,
Robt. Soutter, Jr.,
And. Harris.

And then the Assembly adjourned.
Concluded with prayer.

Monday afternoon.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 23, being a joint request from the Synod of Wheeling and the Presbytery of Greenbrier that their common boundary-line may be altered. On motion, it was referred to Messrs. Lewis, Core, and A. T. Chester.

Overture No. 24, on the subject of uniting the Seminaries at Allegheny Town and New Albany, was referred to Messrs. Hulburt, Clark, T. Alexander, Thorpe, and Davis.

The unfinished business was resumed—viz. the report of the committee to whom were referred the report of the Board of Missions, the report of the Committee on Church Extension, together with Overture No. 5, being sundry memorials on the subject of the removal of the Board and its increased efficiency ; which, being read seriatim, was amended and adopted, and is as follows, viz. :

The committee to whom was referred the report of the Board of Domestic Missions, the report of the Committee on Church Extension, together with Overture No. 5, being sundry memorials on the subject of the removal of the Board and its increased efficiency, report that they have had the same under consideration, and recommend the adoption of the following resolutions, viz. :

1. *Resolved*, That the said reports be approved by the General Assembly, and be returned to the Board for publication : and that the Board be requested to furnish the Stated Clerk of the Assembly with an abstract of the reports for publication in the Appendix to the *Minutes*.

2. *Resolved*, That this Assembly hereby expresses its high gratification and its sincere gratitude at the growing favor of the cause of Domestic Missions with some portion of our churches, as manifested by their increased

contributions to it during the past year; and it would earnestly recommend the cause to a still more enlarged liberality, as one fundamentally associated with the welfare of our Church and country and the best interests of immortal souls.

3. *Resolved*, That the Assembly approve the action of the Board in relation to church extension, and continue the management of this important enterprise with the Board of Missions on the plan adopted by the last General Assembly.

4. *Resolved*, That the General Assembly, confirmed by the report of the Committee on Church Extension in its views of the great importance of this means of building up our Zion, and regretting to learn the very small contributions of our churches in aid of this cause, do hereby most earnestly commend it to their increased support, and recommend to the Synods and Presbyteries to take such action on this subject as will secure its presentation to all the churches under their care.

In relation to the memorials which were put into the hands of the committee requesting a removal of the place of meeting of the Board with a view to its greater efficiency, the committee report the following paper, viz.:

The very great extent of the field of operation of the Board, extending from the New England States to the extreme boundary of civilization in the West, and from the northern lakes to Florida, embracing every variety of habits, feelings, and interests, and an equal diversity in the nature of the feeble churches and destitutions to be supplied, renders it next to impossible for any body of men located at any given point within the territory, however wise and energetic they may be, to manage to the best advantage in all the cases that arise. The present is also a great crisis in the affairs of the Protestant churches of our land, owing to the rapid increase of popery and other heresies, many of which are entirely local in their character and require to be promptly met by suitable men. The valley of the Mississippi has especially been selected as the great field in which popery has declared her design to fight the battle for empire in this republic. With these considerations in view, together with the fact that the churches are by no means awake to the dangers which environ them and the necessity of not suffering themselves to be outdone by the other Protestant denominations, while the General Assembly deem it altogether inexpedient to change the location of the Board, they adopt the following plan for giving increased activity and efficiency to its operations:

1. That a committee be appointed by the Board, with similar powers to that already located at Philadelphia, to hold its meetings at Louisville, Kentucky, and to report monthly to the Board.

2. That a Secretary and General Agent be appointed by the Board to labor in connection with the above Western committee, with a treasurer and other necessary officers.

3. That the supervision of the Western and South-western fields, the boundaries of which are to be designated by the Board, be committed to the above committee, so far as procuring and locating missionaries and obtaining funds are concerned. But neither the Eastern nor Western committee shall locate a missionary for whose support they have not in their respective treasuries the necessary means, without the consent of the Board.

4. That the Board at its monthly meetings shall, upon the reports of these committees, make such transfers of funds as shall be found most expedient for furthering the best interests of the work, and shall assign the particular fields in which the agents shall labor.

The report of the committee on the report of the Board of Education was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence, to whom was committed Overture No. 19, being a letter from the Free Church of Scotland, with an accompanying paper on the subject of slavery, reported a reply to the letter aforesaid; all of which were read.

The hour of adjournment having arrived, the rules were, on motion, suspended; when it was

Resolved, That when the House adjourn, it adjourn to meet this evening at eight o'clock.

And then the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday evening, 8 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The unfinished business was resumed; and on motion the reply to the letter of the Free Church of Scotland was adopted; and it was ordered that said reply be duly signed and transmitted, and printed in the Appendix to the *Minutes*.

The Committee on the State of Religion reported a Narrative, which was read, and, being amended, was adopted, and was ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the *Minutes*.

On motion, it was

1. *Resolved*, That the present Assembly elect twenty-four members—fifteen ministers and nine laymen—to fill the vacancies in the Board of Missions, and that hereafter the same number be elected annually, instead of the number heretofore elected.

2. *Resolved*, That the rule to elect by ballot be dispensed with on the present occasion, and that the Assembly proceed at once to elect by nomination.

Whereupon the following persons were duly elected to fill vacancies in the Board of Missions:

MINISTERS.

John McDowell, D. D.,
W. L. Breckinridge, D. D.,
James Wood, D. D.,
William A. McDowell, D. D.,
J. M. Krebs, D. D.,
E. P. Humphrey,
Daniel Stewart,
S. Seovel,
David J. Todd,
W. W. Hill,
Joshua L. Wilson, D. D.,
Samuel R. Wilson,
Thos. L. Janeway,
John T. Edgar, D. D.,
Isaac N. Candee.

LAYMEN.

Samuel Cassedy,
Charles Woodruff,
William Richardson,
William Garvin,
Samuel Russell,
Henry Tunstall,
A. W. Mitchell, M. D.,
James Dunlap,
William Dulty.

The committee on Overture No. 23, being a joint request from the Synod of Wheeling and the Presbytery of Greenbrier, of the Synod of Virginia, for the alteration of their common boundary-line, presented a report, which was adopted, and is as follows, viz.:

Inasmuch as the boundaries asked for by the Synod of Wheeling and the Presbytery of Greenbrier conflict; therefore

Resolved, That this subject be referred to the parties concerned for their future action.

The report of the special committee appointed to draft a minute expressive of the sense of the House on the marriage question was taken up, and after being considered, was indefinitely postponed.

On motion, the complaint and memorial of Mr. McQueen, reported by the Judicial Committee, were made the second order of the day for to-morrow morning.

And then the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday morning, May 27.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had granted leave to Messrs. Stewart, Gordon, McClung, Thompson, Henderson, and Peers.

Mr. McInnis, on behalf of himself and others, offered a minute explanatory of their vote on the marriage question, which was read and admitted to record, and is as follows, viz.:

The undersigned respectfully submit the following minute, and request that it be put upon the records of this Assembly, to wit: In voting for the resolution to overture the Presbyteries on the subject of altering that section of the Confession of Faith which relates to marriage, we wish it distinctly understood that we did not vote in the affirmative because we were in favor of such alteration.

R. McINNIS,
ALEXANDER DONALDSON,
THOS. W. KERR,
JAMES A. GILLESPIE,
HENRY McDONALD,
ABRAHAM HAGAMAN,
WILLIAM BURTON,

R. DAVIDSON,
A. R. GRAVES,
J. DOLL,
JAMES J. MILES,
GEO. P. LILLY,
JAMES N. LEWIS,
JOHN C. EASTMAN.

The order of the day was taken up, being the report of the committee on the annual report of the Board of Education, which was read, and being amended, was adopted, and is as follows, viz.:

The committee to whom the annual report of the Board of Education was referred offered the following resolutions for adoption by the Assembly:

1. *Resolved*, That the Assembly appreciate, with great satisfaction, the fidelity with which the arduous, delicate, and peculiarly embarrassing duties of this Board have been discharged.

2. *Resolved*, That we renew our earnest and solemn urgency on the Presbyteries to be careful and cautious in their choice of beneficiaries, and that they be enjoined to require not only clear evidences of piety and prudence, but also of talents of a high order.

3. *Resolved*, That all teachers who have beneficiaries of the Board under their care, whether in academies, colleges, or theological seminaries, be urged to watch the progress of these students with the utmost vigilance, and to report promptly and faithfully every instance in which a student falls below a high standard in any of the varied qualifications now specified in the form of report to this Board.

4. *Resolved*, That to suffer a candidate under the care of this Board to slight his solemn pledge, by entering the ministry without "a thorough course of study preparatory," or "a three years' course of theological study," be regarded by the Assembly as injurious to the cause of education, ensnaring to the conscience of beneficiaries, dangerous to the honor and best interests

of Zion, and to be excused only under circumstances of extraordinary necessity.

5. *Resolved*, That in proportion as the Assembly do thus guard and watch the operations of this Board, they commend it to the increasing confidence of the churches as prospered of God, vital to every other interest and enterprise we cherish, and deserving a far more munificent support, by prayers and contributions, than it has ever yet received.

6. *Resolved*, That the report be approved, and returned to the officers of the Board for publication.

The second order of the day was taken up—viz. the complaint and memorial of Archibald McQueen against the Presbytery of Fayetteville—and on motion, the Rev. Mr. Goldsmith was appointed to manage the case for Mr. McQueen in his absence and agreeably to his request.

The Moderator having reminded the members that they were about to sit in a judicial capacity, the papers in the case were read in due order, and the original parties were fully heard.

After which the following resolution was, on motion, adopted :

Resolved, That the prayer of the memorialist be granted, so far as that this General Assembly recommend to the Presbytery of Fayetteville to reconsider their decision in the case of the Rev. Archibald McQueen, and, if in their judgment it should appear conducive to the peace of the Church and the promotion of religion in the region around them, to restore Mr. McQueen to the communion of the Church and to the exercise of the functions of the gospel ministry, on the ground that in his case the ends of discipline are attained by the operation of the sentence under which Mr. McQueen has been lying for a period of three years.

The yeas and nays being demanded, were recorded as follows, viz. :

YEAS—*Ministers*.—Maltbie, A. T. Chester, Clancy, D. M. Smith, Aitken, Lord, Harkness, Frame, Kirtland, R. Davidson, Perkins, Curran, Tully, Olmstead, Snowden, Hope, Stead, Morris, Williamson, McClain, McMaster, J. T. Smith, Core, McKean, Mitchell, Robertson, Hulburd, J. E. Alexander, Dodd, Whitham, Gould, Newell, Wood, T. Alexander, Eastman, W. K. Marshall, Stocker, Brown, Osborn, Cassells, Lewis, Doll, Laey, Coons, Jacobs, Bowman, Pratt, Hamilton, Graves, Hagaman, McInnis, McDonald, Weatherby, Twitchell.

Elders.—George Davidson, Fowler, A. Smith, W. Lowrie, Baldwin, O. Meeker, Sinclair, Shafer, Wynkoop, Dunlap, Davis, McCoy, Oliphant, Bailey, Miller, Carson, Gordon, Curll, Boyd, Conn, Burch, Dunn, Blake, Jernegan, J. Clark, Miles, J. Dickenson, McNairy, Campbell, Douglas, Pickens, Kilpatrick—86.

NAYS—*Ministers*.—Reeve, Imbrie, Junkin, Corss, Belville, Harrison, Moody, Donaldson, Pitkin, Noyes, Riee, Gilliland, T. B. Clark, Vaneman, Monfort, Ewing, Spilman, Wilson, Goodrich, McConnell, Cowan, Proctor, N. H. Hall, Bayless, Hendren, Bell, Price, Sampson, W. A. Hall, Cunningham, Mathes, Edgar, Turner, Greggs, Thornwell, J. Y. Alexander, Morrow, Warnock.

Elders.—Patterson, W. T. Smith, Leavitt, Gaston, Brice, Thorpe, Telford, Sellar, Brown, Ramsey, Morton, Bullock, Preston, Mitchell, J. Alexander, Watkins, A. D. Dickinson, Head, Gillespie, Armstrong, S. Lowrie, Gunby, Lilly, McDougal—62.

NON LIQUET—*Minister*—Weed—1.

The committee on Overture No. 24, on uniting the seminaries of Allegheny Town and New Albany, presented a report, which on motion was laid on the table.

The report of the Committee on Finance was taken up, and, being amended, was adopted, and is as follows, viz. :

The papers referred to the Committee on Finance by the General Assembly at its present session are the following: the report of the Treasurer of the Trustees, showing the amount of receipts and expenditures for the year ending May 1, 1845; a tabular statement of investments, with a balance-sheet from the ledger of the Treasurer of the General Assembly; a paper showing the several items making the cash balance in the hands of the Treasurer; and a resolution of the Board of Trustees in relation to the books of the Treasurer.

Upon these documents the committee respectfully report that the Treasurer's account has been regularly audited and shows a balance in his hands of \$484.75 up to the first day of May, 1845, which account is herewith returned and marked (A).

The paper marked (B) is a tabular statement of the investments made by the Trustees, showing the par value of these stocks, the last year's estimate of the value of each investment, and their respective values on the 8th of May, inst. The par value of these stocks is \$124,695, their estimated value at the present time about \$78,000. There appears from the papers submitted to this committee to have been a transfer of about \$4000 of bonds to the United States stock, though there is no account of the transaction except in the tabular statement which is made. The committee here would ask the serious attention of the Assembly to a few facts in regard to these investments of their property.

In 1841 the committee to which the Treasurer's accounts were referred in their report called upon the Assembly to consider "how far or how long sound discretion will authorize us to invest our funds, contributed for permanent purposes, in securities which are fluctuating and uncertain;" and they proposed the adoption of the following resolution, which was adopted: "*Resolved*, That in the opinion of this committee the funds in the hands of the Treasurer are at present invested in securities for the most part of very questionable character, and the Trustees are hereby directed to invest their funds in bond and mortgage on real estate as soon as that can be done with advantage and safety." As this was not a positive order, the stocks were not sold, and in 1842 the Trustees reported an estimated loss in the aggregate of \$90,000 by their depreciation in value. In view of this vast reduction the Assembly the next year suffered the matter to rest. In 1843 the reputed gain by the rise of stocks was about \$17,000. In 1844 the estimated gain was \$15,000, making the whole value of the stocks in the hands of the Trustees about \$78,000, and leaving still an aggregate loss upon the whole of about \$78,000. By the report just received it appears that the advance upon these stocks is only about \$400. In the report of 1843 the estimated gain was \$17,000; in 1844, \$15,000; in 1845, less than \$400.

The paper marked (C) is a balance-sheet from the ledger of the Treasurer of the General Assembly, and the paper marked (D) shows the several items making the cash balance in his hands; and the committee recommend that these papers (A, B, C, and D) be printed in the Appendix to the *Minutes*.

In connection with these papers the committee have also received a resolution of the Board of Trustees, stating that, in consequence of the inconvenience and risk, it is not expedient to send the Treasurer's books to the Assembly this year. The committee regret this, as they have no means from the papers before them of ascertaining the revenue of the Assembly from its funded property.

The committee recommend the following resolutions:

1. *Resolved*, That it is the sense of this Assembly that the Board of Trustees should take immediate measures for the sale of all the bank, insurance company, and turnpike stocks in their hands, and the investment of the pro-

ceeds in bond and mortgage on real estate, or in United States Government stocks, leaving it still discretionary with the Trustees to act in this matter.

2. *Resolved*, That it be required of the Treasurer, each year, to make a full report of the income received during the last fiscal year from each of the stocks owned by the Assembly.

A. T. CHESTER, MICAH BALDWIN,
C. K. IMBRIE, J. BULLOCK.
R. McINNIS,

And then the Assembly adjourned.
Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday afternoon.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence reported a letter to the General Assembly of the Church of Ireland, which, as also the letter from the said Assembly to which it is an answer, was read. On motion, the answer was adopted and ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the *Minutes*.

Agreeably to the recommendation of the same committee, the letter from the General Association of New Hampshire was read; and on motion, it was

Resolved, That our delegate to that body be required to reciprocate its sentiments of Christian affection, and to deliver to them a copy of our *Minutes* for this year, calling their attention particularly to the action of the Assembly at this time on the subject of slavery.

A letter from the delegate of the German Reformed Church was also read; and on motion, it was

Resolved, That our delegate to that body be required to deliver to them a copy of our *Minutes* for this year, and to reciprocate the sentiments of Christian and fraternal regard which the letter contains.

On motion, Overture No. 4 was taken up, being a request from the Presbytery of Elizabethtown to rescind the resolution requiring the examination of all ministers coming from one Presbytery to another. On motion, the overture was laid on the table.

The committee appointed to draw up a minute expressive of the views of the Assembly presented a report, which was read and adopted, and is as follows, viz. :

"The committee appointed to prepare a minute expressive of the views of this Assembly in returning a negative to Overture No. 6, beg leave to report :

The question presented to this Assembly by overture from the Presbytery of Ohio, "*Is baptism in the Church of Rome valid?*" is one of a very grave character and of deep practical importance. The answer to it must involve principles vital to the peace, the purity, and the stability of the Church of God.

After a full discussion carried through several days, this Assembly has decided, by a nearly unanimous vote, that *baptism so administered is not valid*.

Because, since baptism is an ordinance established by Christ in his Church (Form Gov., chap. vii.; Matt. xxviii. 19, 20), and is to be administered only by a minister of Christ duly called and ordained to be a steward of the mysteries of God (Directory, chap. vii. sec. 1), it follows that no rite administered by one who is not himself a duly ordained minister of the true Church of God visible can be regarded as an ordinance of Christ, whatever be the name

by which it is called, whatever the form employed in its administration. The so-called priests of the Romish communion are not ministers of Christ, for they are commissioned as agents of the papal hierarchy, which is not a Church of Christ, but the Man of Sin, apostate from the truth, the enemy of righteousness and of God. She has long lain under the curse of God, who has called his people to come out from her, that they be not partakers of her plagues.

It is the unanimous opinion of all the Reformed churches that the whole papal body, though once a branch of the visible Church, has long since become unutterably corrupt and hopelessly apostate. It was a conviction of this which led to the Reformation and the complete separation of the Reformed body from the papal communion. Luther and his coadjutors, being duly ordained presbyters at the time when they left the Romish communion—which then, though fearfully corrupt, was the only visible Church in the countries of their abode—were fully authorized by the word of God to ordain successors in the ministry, and so to extend and perpetuate the Reformed churches as true churches of Christ, while the contumacious adherence of Rome to her corruptions, as shown in the decisions of the Council of Trent (which she adopts as authoritative), cuts her off from the visible Church of Christ as heretical and unsound. This was the opinion of the Reformers, and it is the doctrine of the Reformed churches to this day. In entire accordance to this is the decision of the General Assembly of our Church passed in 1835 (see *Minutes of General Assembly*, vol. iii. p. 490), declaring the Church of Rome to be an apostate body.

The decision by the Assembly of 1835 renders the return of a negative to the inquiry proposed by the Presbytery of Ohio *indispensable on the ground of consistency*, unless we be prepared to admit, in direct contradiction to the standards of the Presbyterian Church, that baptism is not an ordinance established by Christ in his Church exclusively, and that it may be administered by an agent of the Man of Sin, an emissary of the prince of darkness—that it may be administered in sport or in blasphemy, and yet be valid as though administered by a duly-commissioned steward of the mysteries of God.

Nor can it be urged that the papal hierarchy is improving in her character and gradually approximating to the scriptural standard. She *claims to be infallible*; her dogmas she promulgates as the doctrines of heaven; and she pronounces her heaviest anathema against any and every man who questions her authority and refuses to bow to her decisions. She cannot recede from the ground she has assumed. She has adopted as her own the decisions of the Council of Trent, which degrade the word of God, which claim equal authority for the Apocrypha as for the New Testament, and which declare the sense held and taught by holy mother Church on the authority of tradition and of the Fathers to be the true and only sense of Scripture. All who deny this position or who question her authority she denounces with the bitterest curses.

She thus perverts the truth of God; she rejects the doctrine of justification by faith; she substitutes human merit for the righteousness of Christ, and self-inflicted punishment for gospel repentance; she proclaims her so-called baptism to be regeneration, and the reception of the consecrated wafer in the Eucharist to be the receiving of Christ himself, the source and fountain of grace, and with him all the grace he can impart. Is this the truth? Is reliance on this system true religion? Can, then, the papal body be a Church?

The Church (*i. e.* the Church visible), as defined in our standards, is the whole body of those persons, together with their children, who make pro-

fession of the *holy religion of Christ* and of submission to his laws (Form Gov., chap. ii. sec. 2). As certainly, then, as the dogmas and practices of papal Rome are not the *holy religion of Christ*, must it be conceded that the papal body is not a Church of Christ at all; and if not, then her agents, be they styled priests, bishops, archbishops, cardinals, or popes, are not ministers of Christ in any sense, for they have no connection with his true visible Church; and, not being true ministers of Christ, they have no power to administer Christian ordinances, and the rite they *call* baptism is not, in any sense to be regarded as valid Christian baptism.

Further, by the perverted meaning they affix and the superstitious rites they have superadded to the ceremonies they perform under the name of baptism and the Eucharist, the symbolical nature and true design of both the ordinances of baptism and the Lord's Supper are lost sight of and utterly destroyed, so that, could we by any possibility assign to her the *name of a Church*, she would still be a Church without the two grand ordinances of the gospel: she neither administers Christian baptism nor celebrates the Supper of our Lord.

Moreover, since, by the eleventh canon of the Council of Trent, she declares the efficacy of her ordinances to depend upon the *intention* of the administrator, no man can know with certainty that her form of administration in any ordinance is not a mere mockery: no consistent papist can be certain that he has been duly baptized or that he has received the veritable Eucharist: he cannot *know* that the priest who officiates at his altar is a true priest, nor that there is actually any one true priest or any one prelate rightly consecrated in the whole papal communion. The papal hierarchy has by her own solemn act shrouded all her doings in uncertainty and enveloped all her rites in hopeless obscurity. Even on this ground alone the validity of her baptism might safely be denied.

Nor is the fact that instances now and then occur of apparent piety in the members of her communion, and of intelligence, zeal, and conscientiousness in some of her priests, any ground of objection against the position here taken by this Assembly. The virtues of individuals do not purify the body of which they are members. We are to judge of the character of a body claiming to be a Church of Christ, not by the opinions or practices of its individual members, but by its standards and its allowed practices. Bound as he is by the authority of his Church—and that on pain of her heaviest malediction—to understand the Scriptures only in the sense in which his Church understands and explains them, a consistent papist cannot receive or hold the true religion or the doctrines of grace. If he does, he must either renounce the papacy or hypocritically conceal his true sentiments, or he must prepare to brave the thunders of her wrath. True religion and an intelligent adherence to papal Rome are utterly incompatible and impossible. The Church and the papacy are the repelling poles of the moral system.

Difficulties may possibly arise in individual cases. It may not be easy at all times to say whether an applicant for admission into the Church of Christ has or has not been baptized—whether he has been christened by a popish pastor or not. In all such doubtful cases the Session of a church must act according to the light before them. But it is safe and more conducive to peace and edification to embrace a well-established principle for our guidance, and act upon it firmly in the fear of God, leaving all consequences with him, than to suffer ourselves without any fixed principles to be at the mercy of circumstances.

While some other churches may hesitate to carry out fully the principles of the Reformation in wholly repudiating popish baptism as well as the popish mass, we as Presbyterians feel bound to act on the principle laid down by

our Assembly so long ago as 1790 (see *Digest*, pp. 94, 95), that so long as a body by us is recognized as a true Church are her ordinances to be deemed valid, and no longer.

In 1835 the Assembly declared the papacy to be apostate from Christ and no true Church. As we do not recognize her as a portion of the visible Church of Christ, we cannot, consistently, view her priesthood as other than usurpers of the sacred functions of the ministry, her ordinances as unscriptural, and her baptism as totally invalid.

Dr. Lord, on behalf of himself and others, asked leave to introduce a dissent with reasons, from the foregoing report, which was admitted to record, and is as follows, viz.:

The undersigned would respectfully dissent from the decision of the General Assembly in reply to Overture No. 6, for the following reasons:

1. Because while we are not prepared to affirm that baptism in the Church of Rome is always valid, yet we think the general decision that there is and can be no Christian baptism in the papal communion involves a denial that any part of the Church catholic remains in the apostasy, and is based upon wrong views of the nature of the ordinance itself.

2. Because in deciding this question we understand the General Assembly to assume that if the Church of Rome is no Church of Christ, then baptism in her communion is necessarily void—an inference which none of the Reformed churches have ever made from the same premises; an inference which denies the validity of the baptism of the Reformers, who testified against Rome as Antichrist; an inference which is likely to bring us into collision with sister churches with whom we are in correspondence; and because we cannot see that such an inference necessarily follows from the premises, and in our opinion the argument has been prejudiced by presenting the question as one in relation to the corruptions of Rome, in which we are all agreed.

3. Because we think the question of the rebaptism of converts from Romanism should be decided by the church Sessions called upon to receive them, in view of the circumstances of each case as it may arise, and that a positive and definitive rule is one that cannot be wisely established, is not called for by any actual exigency, is not now demanded judicially in the usual course of decisions upon appeal and complaint or upon revision, when each case is fully considered upon its merits, but as a mere abstract question, which, in our view, it would be wise to leave where the Reformed churches have hitherto left it.

JOHN C. LORD,
JOHN HENDREN,
HENRY McDONALD,
JOHN WARNOCK,

THOMAS AITKEN,
JAMES MCNAIR,
SAMUEL E. HIBBEN,
WILLIAM BURTON.

Overture No. 17 was taken up, being certain petitions and a memorial on the subject of a quorum of Presbytery; and, on motion, it was laid on the table.

Overture No. 18, on the power of Synods to order meetings of Presbyteries, was laid on the table.

Overture No. 20, on the appointment of a day of fasting, was read, and was adopted, and is as follows, viz.:

In view of the evident decline of vital piety in many of our churches, and with a hope of obtaining help from the Lord; therefore

Resolved, That all our ministers be requested to preach on the same day upon this subject, and inquire into the causes which prevent the outpouring of the Spirit upon us; and that the Thursday before the fourth Sabbath in

June next be that day, and that it be observed as a day of fasting and prayer.

Overture No. 21, being a report from the Committee of Bills and Overtures on a memorial from George H. Riddle, Esq., in relation to the Theological Seminary at Allegheny Town. On motion it was

Resolved, That the subject-matter of the memorial of George H. Riddle, Esq., be referred to the Board of Directors of the Western Theological Seminary, who are hereby authorized and empowered to settle and compromise with all persons who may have a subsisting legal and just claim to a right of common of pasture in the land on which the said seminary is erected, and to pay such person or persons such sums of money as may be agreed, awarded, or adjudged as compensation for the release of such rights.

Overture No. 9, an overture from the Presbytery of Newton on the demission of the ministerial office, was, on motion, laid on the table.

Overture No. 16, a letter from the Welsh Calvinistic Methodists in the United States, proposing a correspondence with this Assembly, and accompanied with their Constitution and Confession of Faith, was read; whereupon it was, on motion,

Resolved, That this Assembly assent to the proposal, and that the Stated Clerk be directed to inform the body of the vote of this Assembly, and request them to commence a correspondence with us either by letter or the appointment of delegates to this body as they may prefer.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That, though the two Assemblies preceding this have solemnly affirmed the perpetuity and sanctity of the Lord's Day, yet this Assembly is pained with the report by the narratives from some of the Presbyteries that this holy day is yet desecrated in a lamentable manner; therefore we do hereby enjoin it upon all our church judicatories and officers in their several capacities to take measures to urge on the Sabbath reform until this sacred institution is observed according to the fourth command of the Decalogue.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the Assembly direct the Trustees under the charter of the Western Theological Seminary, now accepted, to meet in the seminary on the third Thursday of June next, at two o'clock, P. M., to be organized in pursuance of the provisions of said charter.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the thanks of this General Assembly be presented to the citizens of Cincinnati for their hospitality to the members during these sessions.

Resolved, That the calling of the roll be dispensed with.

Resolved, That special thanks be offered to Almighty God for the harmony and brotherly love which have characterized the entire sessions of this General Assembly.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Assembly having finished their business, it was

Resolved, That this General Assembly be dissolved, and that another General Assembly, chosen in like manner, be required to meet in the Tenth Presbyterian Church in the city of Philadelphia, on the third Thursday of May, A. D. 1846, at 11 o'clock A. M.

Accordingly, the Moderator dissolved the Assembly with singing, prayer, and the apostolic benediction.

ROBERT DAVIDSON, *Permanent Clerk*.

Cincinnati, May 27, 1845.

APPENDIX.

NARRATIVE OF THE STATE OF RELIGION

IN THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES, ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, AND ADDRESSED TO THE CHURCHES UNDER THEIR CARE.

BELoved BRETHREN: In communicating to you a brief history of the labors and trials, the successes and discouragements, of the Church during the past year, the General Assembly desire to express their devout gratitude to God for the continued kindness which he has been pleased to manifest to them and to you. While some of our ministers and members have been called to enter upon their eternal rest, and others who survive have been chastened by various temporal calamities, our losses by death have been only as the gathering in of the ripened harvest by the Lord of the vineyard, and our other adversities as the pruning of the vines by the watchful husbandman in order that they may bring forth more fruit.

The reports sent up to this Assembly from the Presbyteries under our care speak, almost without exception, of the existence of peace and harmony among Christian brethren, of their attachment to the doctrines and order of the Presbyterian Church, of their regular attendance upon the ministrations of the gospel, and, in general, of their correct Christian deportment.

These reports also tell us of the commendable efforts made by our churches to support pastors, erect houses of worship, sustain Sabbath-schools and Bible-classes, and to instruct our youth and children in the doctrines and duties of our holy religion.

They tell us of missionary labors performed by pastors and missionaries, of the selection of new stations for preaching, and of the organization of new churches.

They speak of the family altar upon which most of our members offer their morning and evening sacrifice, of the social prayer-meeting where our brethren are accustomed to meet and make intercession to God for their perishing fellow-men, and of the general observance of the monthly concert to pray for the conversion of the world.

They report to us the collection of funds to endow theological seminaries, to educate young men for the gospel ministry, to sustain missionaries, both domestic and foreign, and to circulate the Holy Scriptures and other evangelical books in our own and other countries.

They speak of the exertions made to promote the cause of temperance and the proper observance of the Lord's Day; and, above all, they communicate to us the pleasing fact that in numerous instances our churches have been blessed with precious revivals of religion.

Upon all these topics we should delight to dwell, but the limits usually assigned to our annual Narrative forbid such a course. We must, therefore, select a few of the more prominent and important particulars, and leave the others with the general remark that, for the most part, they have suffered no decline since the meeting of the last General Assembly, but, on the contrary,

are gradually increasing and extending their influence to sanctify and enlarge the Church.

Thirty-five churches are particularly reported as having enjoyed seasons of copious refreshing from the presence of the Lord; some of the Presbyteries report several churches without specifying the number, and some speak of a revival of God's work in most of their congregations; from all which we believe we may state the number of churches which have enjoyed these gracious outpourings of the Holy Spirit to be not less than sixty, and about as many more are reported to have been blessed with an unusual degree of divine influence.

One of the churches mentioned by name in these reports belongs to the Presbytery of Hudson, one to the Presbytery of New York, one to the Presbytery of Long Island, one to the Presbytery of New Brunswick, three to the Presbytery of Raritan, one to the Presbytery of Ohio, one to the Presbytery of Hoeking, one to the Presbytery of Salem, one to the Presbytery of Indianapolis, one to the Presbytery of Fort Wayne, two to the Presbytery of Sangamon, three to the Presbytery of St. Louis, one to the Presbytery of Missouri, three to the Presbytery of Transylvania, two to the Presbytery of Muhlenburg, three to the Presbytery of West Hanover, three to the Presbytery of Orange, two to the Presbytery of South Carolina, two to the Presbytery of Hopewell, and two to the Presbytery of New Orleans. The Presbyteries of Steuben, Northumberland, Clarion, and Richland report pleasing indications of the divine presence in some of their congregations, and precious revivals are spoken of as having occurred in several churches belonging to the Presbyteries of Flint River and Mississippi, while the Presbyteries of Charleston and South Alabama communicate the interesting fact that most of their churches have been blessed with these merciful visitations from the Most High.

In some of these congregations there have been added twenty, in others thirty, in others fifty, and in others sixty and seventy, to the communion of the Church. The instrumentalities employed in producing these glorious results is described to have been the faithful preaching of the gospel and the fervent prayers of God's people, unaccompanied by those artificial means which have been resorted to by so many in years past, the tendency of which is to produce spurious conversions and an impulsive, unstable religion.

For these tokens of the divine favor we would render our fervent praise and thanksgiving to the glorious and divine Head of the Church, who has thereby given his sanction to the truth of our doctrines and the validity of our ministry, has increased the sum of human happiness by delivering many souls from the bondage of sin, and has added auxiliaries to that sacramental host of his elect people whom he is employing for the conquest of an apostate and perishing world.

But while the Assembly express their gratitude to God for these blessings, they are obliged to add that the reports of very many of our Presbyteries contain complaints of coldness and declension. What are sixty or one hundred, or even one hundred and fifty, churches which have been more or less revived, compared with the two thousand in our communion from which the refreshing rain of God's Spirit has been in a great measure withheld? There is surely no less reason for humiliation than for gratitude, and we earnestly enjoin upon all our churches to seek with the utmost diligence a removal of those causes which may be found to have contributed to this state of declension, and to pray for the enjoyment of those precious seasons of spiritual prosperity with which some of our churches have been favored during the past year.

The chief cause of this declension is in very many of the reports ascribed to the great political excitement which pervaded the country previous to the late Presidential election; in view of which fact the Assembly feel themselves called upon to say that while it is the right and duty of the members of our churches to participate with their fellow-citizens in the election of our civil rulers, it is manifestly their duty as Christians to exercise their elective franchise in such a manner as not to interrupt their communion with God or diminish their zeal for the salvation of souls. We would exhort you to avoid the influence of that political excitement which absorbs, for the time being, every other interest, and to use your exertions to effect a change in this respect in public sentiment, that those who are not members of our churches, but who attend upon the preaching of our ministers, may not be placed hereafter in such a position, for many months together (as they have been sometimes hitherto), that they have scarcely listened with attention, much less with self-application, to the truths of the gospel.

Above all, we most earnestly exhort you to humble yourselves before God, to exercise unfeigned repentance for past backslidings of heart and deficiencies in duty, and to offer up fervent and importunate prayer that the Lord would restore the captivity of Zion and cause Jacob to rejoice and Israel to be glad.

The cause of temperance is reported by some of our Presbyteries to be on the advance. The Presbytery of New Lisbon inform us that there is not a single house within their bounds which is licensed to vend ardent spirits. But many of our Presbyteries speak of this cause as being at a stand, and some as retrograding; the reason of which is alleged to be, in several of the reports, the false ground assumed and the denunciatory language employed by some temperance lecturers, on account of which many intelligent and influential men have ceased to attend their meetings, and the cause has thereby lost its hold in a considerable degree upon the public mind. This Assembly would affectionately urge upon all the members of our churches and upon our fellow-citizens who may peruse our Narrative the duty of promoting this important object both by their example and influence. We do not ask you to countenance, much less to adopt, those false principles, or to give your sanction to that spirit of denunciation, which have marred, in some instances, the temperance reformation; but we do urge upon you, standing on ground that is tenable and exhibiting a spirit that is kind and Christian, to engage with firmness and perseverance in the patriotic and benevolent work of arresting the desolating tide of intemperance which still continues to ruin its thousands.

The sanctification of the Sabbath is spoken of by some of our Presbyteries as having received an unusual degree of public attention. Sermons and addresses have been delivered, conventions held, and measures adopted to secure the more general observance of this holy day, and much good has resulted from these efforts. Other Presbyteries speak of the desecration of the Lord's Day by many within their bounds, and deplore it as being a serious obstacle to the success of their ministry. Upon this subject, with reference to which the word of God is so plain, it would seem to be superfluous for us to expatiate. Christian brethren, let your conduct in this respect be unblamable before your families and before the world, and let the united exertions of ministers and people be directed to that most desirable object of securing the proper observance of the Lord's Day throughout this whole nation.

The reports of some of our Presbyteries afford pleasing proofs of enlarged liberality in promoting different objects of Christian benevolence. Large sums have been collected in different sections of the Church to establish schools and colleges and to endow theological seminaries.

The different Boards of our Church have been sustained with as much liberality as in any former year, and in various other forms the resources of many of our churches have been employed to advance the best interests of society. But while we feel gratified with this spirit of Christian liberality, so far as it has been manifested, we regret to add that from a schedule presented to this Assembly by one of our Boards it appears that a very large number of our churches have contributed nothing during the past year for objects of benevolence beyond their own bounds. To such churches we would say affectionately that we regard it as the sacred duty of every church, however small, and of every individual member, however poor, with few exceptions, to contribute some amount, according as God has prospered him, to extend the boundaries of Christ's kingdom. Especially it is the duty of each member in our communion to sustain the several Boards which have been organized by the General Assembly. These Boards, whose annual reports have just been presented to this body, and for whose success in their respective spheres of labor we desire to feel grateful to God, are the most powerful instruments, next to the preaching of the gospel, which are possessed by the Church for blessing mankind with the influence and hopes of evangelical religion. They are, indeed, the most efficient agencies which we possess to enable us to preach the gospel to perishing men, and we think it is not too much for us to expect that all our churches will contribute annually to these Boards. If this should be done according to the ability of each church, our facilities for doing good would be greatly increased and the borders of our beloved Zion proportionately extended.

The subject of church extension has excited more than ordinary interest during the past year, both as it relates to the efforts of the Church to enlarge her boundaries and to the erection of houses of worship. Several new stations for preaching have been selected in the Presbyteries of New York, Philadelphia, and New Orleans; new churches have been organized in different Presbyteries in the West; and in two of them—viz. Salem and Missouri—fourteen houses of worship are in the progress of erection, in the former six, and in the latter eight. The ministerial force of several Presbyteries has also been considerably increased, particularly those of Baltimore, Louisville, and St. Louis. The report of the last-named Presbytery states that special attention has been paid to the German population and other foreigners, and with very encouraging results. We commend this subject to the serious consideration of our ministers and churches, who should endeavor by every practicable means to bring these immigrants to the knowledge of Christ as soon as they arrive upon our shores.

In the work of church extension much is to be done, both with regard to the increase of laborers and the providing of them with convenient places to preach. A great want of ministerial aid is particularly mentioned in the reports of the Presbyteries of Clinton, Cherokee, and Louisiana; and the Presbytery of Potosi inform us that their number of ministers, which was small before, has been diminished during the past year by the loss of two of their most valuable members by death. Great inconvenience is likewise experienced in several of the Presbyteries of the West for the want of houses of worship, and many of the churches are too feeble to incur the whole expense of their erection. A good opportunity is here afforded to those who are just entering the gospel ministry, or to those who are seeking new fields of labor, to go to the aid of those brethren who, from the smallness of their number, are able only to occupy a spot here and there, while the whole country between is left uncultivated and desolate. An opportunity is also furnished for the older and more highly-favored portions of the Church to contribute of their substance to enable their brethren who now worship God in

school-houses and barns or under the open canopy of heaven to erect comfortable churches in which they may offer their devotions without feeling the peltings of the angry storm.

Many of our Southern and South-western Presbyteries report the gratifying fact that special attention has been paid to the religious instruction of the colored population. Several pages of the report from the Presbytery of Fayetteville are occupied in giving details of their mode of instruction. To incorporate these in our present Narrative would extend it to an unusual length. In the report of the Presbytery of Georgia, where the movement appears to have originated, a succinct account is given both of labors and results. They write to us as follows: "Rev. C. C. Jones reported in behalf of the mission to the blacks in Liberty county, of whom there are 4000 in a region 20 miles square. It is designed that the gospel should be brought within walking distance of them all. The congregations are large and often overflowing. One place of worship, which was enlarged a few years ago, is often insufficient to contain the attendants. After a trial of eleven years it is found that there is no diminution of interest among this class of hearers. They are settled down as regular attendants on public worship. It is ascertained that judicious instruction by white men will secure this object, and that any religious fluctuations among the colored people are governed by the same causes as among the whites. There are several Sabbath-schools, attended by some five or six hundred scholars. The blacks of Liberty county, after some twelve years of Sabbath-school instruction, are a different population from what they used to be. Among the church members there is an advance in Christian character. Their offences are becoming less frequent and less enormous. There is a general elevation of character, attended with an increased fidelity to their masters.

"For three or four years from the commencement of this missionary work there were but few conversions. There followed about five years of revival, in which several hundred were admitted to church privileges. For the last year there has been a dearth of spiritual influences. At present there is one station where there are fifteen inquirers; at this station a day has been appointed for fasting and prayer.

"The reports of the association in Liberty county have done good elsewhere, and the work has made advances in all parts of the Southern country. Other denominations are entering into it with zeal and energy, and it is beginning to be owned as the grand duty of Southern Christians and ministers."

The General Assembly would affectionately urge upon all their ministers and churches in those Presbyteries who have not yet engaged in this work to imitate the laudable example of their brethren, and to persevere in their labor of love, until throughout our whole Southern and South-western country these children of Ham, who have been hitherto for the most part "afar off" "as strangers and foreigners," "may be brought nigh by the blood of Christ" and "become fellow-citizens with the saints and of the household of God."

The Assembly have received an interesting report from the Presbytery of Lodianna in the East Indies, the whole of which we should be glad to spread before you; but for an account of this mission, and of all our other missions among the heathen, we must refer you to the *Missionary Chronicle*, a periodical published by our Boards of Foreign and Domestic Missions, and which we greatly desire to see in the hands of every member of our Church.

We shall do injustice to our own feelings if we pass over unnoticed the state of religion in the bounds of those churches with whom we are in correspondence. Either by delegates present at the meeting of this Assembly or by letters and reports received by us we are informed that in the Congre-

gational, the Reformed Dutch, and the German Reformed churches God is giving them continued marks of his favor in most or all of those ways by which we are accustomed to judge of the progress and prosperity of the Church. The same may be said of those ecclesiastical bodies with whom we are in correspondence beyond the wide ocean. God appears to be bringing into closer union the different branches of the evangelical Protestant Church, and to be giving greater power and efficacy to their testimony for the truth.

As might be expected, we have to meet with many discouragements and to encounter much opposition. But the united voice of the whole evangelical Church proclaiming to the world the same truth of God will, through the power of his grace, become omnipotent. That divine energy which rendered efficacious the preaching of the apostles and martyrs, which subdued or restrained the hostility of their enemies, and brought whole provinces, states, and empires under the benignant sway of the risen Redeemer, is now present with his Church, and will in due time bring to the obedience of faith the many millions who are now enslaved by sin, and cause the incense of prayer and praise to ascend up to God from every people and kindred and tongue under the whole heaven.

Brethren in the Lord, let us pray and labor for the consummation of this glorious era.

(Signed by order of the General Assembly.)

JOHN M. KREBS, *Moderator.*

Cincinnati, Ohio, May 26, 1845.

TO THE REV. HENRY GREY, MODERATOR OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

REV. AND DEAR SIR: We have read with great pleasure the letter of October 28, 1844, which you have sent us, according to "the instructions of the Commission of the General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland."

No Church on earth affords us more gratification and honor in correspondence than yours. The vindication of truth and liberty, with which the providence of God has signalized the Church of Scotland through all her history, has shone with brightest lustre in your present day, when oppression under the forms of regulated law, the most formidable of all outward evils to the Church, has been rolled off with an energy which no difficulty could abate and no sacrifice appall. We rejoice to know that your cause is gathering strength, that your hearts are gladdened with sympathy and help from so many other parts of Protestant Christendom, and that the principles for which you have long and devotedly contended are so universally approved by the churches of the Reformation.

Your messengers to us were most welcome. Their enlightened minds, warm affections, and Christian candor won our hearts and excited stronger desires than ever to form with you a fellowship intimate and lasting.

Your sensibility for the little kindness we have been able to express turns to riches our poor liberality, and awakens within us animated desires to follow our contributions with unceasing prayer that "God may supply all your wants," "establish, strengthen, settle you," "make the feeble among you as David, and the house of David as the angel of the Lord."

We have great reason to mourn for the apathy which prevails over a wide extent of our Zion; for the love of the present evil world, which characterizes our nation and pervades the Church with a withering influence; for our

continued reluctance "to receive the correction" which God recently sent in national embarrassment to rebuke our national sins, and which he is still pursuing in desolating calamities by flood and conflagration.

Yet we have manifold occasion to praise the Lord for his goodness and tender mercies. He is greatly enlarging our border, increasing the number of ministers and people, crowning with prosperity our missions at home and abroad, and giving eminent success to the dissemination of evangelical literature over this wide country by the presses we influence or entirely control.

We are also cheered with the hope that the divisions which once occasioned distress among us and "great searchings of heart," will soon be forgotten entirely, by the return to us of all that hold in sincerity and truth the doctrines and order of our Confession—a reunion which the vast and increasing prevalence of popery, fanaticism, and pernicious delusions of every kind so rampant in this land will hasten to consolidate.

And while we thus rejoice in the prospect of union and strength produced at home by the power of vindicated truth, we fondly hope that our union with you will not be disturbed, either by international warfare or discordant views and feelings between the churches themselves, arising from widely different circumstances of country and domestic institutions.

We are gratified, exceedingly, with the spirit of candor and inquiry which pervades your document on the subject of slavery, and leads us to hope that we shall soon be able to acquaint our noble brethren in Scotland with the true position of the Presbyterian Church in this country.

That responsibility for the evils of American slavery is shared by our brethren of Great Britain to some extent; that you are restrained from peremptory decision on the question of our particular duty by ignorance of facts and circumstances; and that you appreciate so much the difficulties of our position as to admit that a different course from that of the British churches may be justified among us for the present,—are generous sentiments and enlightened Christian moderation which prove to us that the Free Church of Scotland is as much ennobled by elevation above the prejudices that surround her as by a memorable exodus from the oppression that enthralled her. Could we allay excitement and restrain impatience and correct misunderstanding among our brethren of the British churches, we have no doubt that our course in this most delicate and difficult subject would be so entirely approved that no intimation of ultimate severance on this account would any more alloy the happiness which your correspondence affords.

Our modes of thinking in this country have not been moulded by anything like a civil establishment of religion—by any such connection of Church and State as induces a reciprocal legislation between the civil and ecclesiastical commonwealth. The State never interferes with us as a Church, either to cherish our doctrines or to control our privileges; and she expects in return that we meddle not with her civil and domestic regulations, one of which is slavery. Every man in the Church here has political right and power. As a citizen he has the utmost opportunity for contending against every social, civil, moral wrong which the institutions of his country may ordain or allow. But as a member of the Church he belongs to a kingdom that is not of this world, that has always been prospered in apostolic and reforming times by separation in counsel from "the powers that be," and which, while it fails not to witness against the sins of the land, would rather, as in your own illustrious example, resign even the guardianship of these powers than permit civil and spiritual enactments either to clash or mingle together.

We learn our duty, dear brethren, not only from the peculiar circumstances of Providence in our political institutions, but from the great charter of the Church itself. Here we have a religion of great principles which it behoves

us to promulgate with all possible energy, industry, and faithfulness—principles which in the end will overthrow every form of oppression that is incompatible with the inalienable rights of man. Beyond the assertion of these principles, and their vigorous application to all the existing relations of society around us, we think it not only inexpedient, but unwarranted and presumptuous, for any ecclesiastical court to pronounce either dogma or precept. We dare not contract the bond of union among brethren more than Christ has contracted it, nor exclude from the pale of our communion members that merely hold a relation which Christ and his apostles did not declare, among their many specific declarations against prevailing sins, to be incompatible with Christian fellowship. Slavery existed then as well as now, with at least equal atrocity; and in our opposition to its evils we desire to treat it as they did, rather than reduce their broad precepts to that minute kind of legislation which engenders fanaticism, distracts and enfeebles the Church, and defeats the eventual triumph of the very principles it proposes to enforce.

Enclosed we send you a copy of a preamble and resolutions on this subject which we have just adopted with great unanimity and deliberate firmness; from which you will learn our determination to abide by the example of Christ and his apostles—to address ourselves, in the spirit of the gospel, more than ever to the work of ameliorating evils we cannot redress, improving a relation we cannot dissolve, and disseminating among masters and slaves that pure gospel whose heavenly influence never fails, when free from the extravagance of man, to purify every institution which God approves, and demolish every system that is opposed to the honor of his name and the best interests of the human race.

(Signed by order of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.)

JOHN M. KREBS, *Moderator.*

WM. M. ENGLER, *Stated Clerk.*

At Cincinnati, Ohio, May 27, 1845.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN
THE UNITED STATES TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND.

REV. AND DEAR BRETHREN: We rejoice to learn, from your letter dated July 9, 1844, that our last letter has afforded you much satisfaction, and that you so kindly solicit a continued correspondence. There is much in our Church and nation which responds with peculiar delight to any communication from brethren in Ireland. The patriotic courage that has triumphed repeatedly in maintaining our honor and freedom is greatly indebted to Irish ardor, and the rapid prosperity of our Church in the days of our fathers was owing no little to the warm and resolute spirit which came from your country to the privations and pains of a wilderness. And in a mighty conflict yet before us, in which our civil freedom, as well as truth and righteousness, will be the stake for which we must contend, we shall be glad to realize much of the spirited energy that characterizes Protestant Ireland. We mean the conflict with popery.

The Man of Sin is determined to supersede us in the vast and beautiful inheritance of this our Western Valley. He is sending from Europe myriads of men darkened and enslaved to him; millions of money managed by his wily priests to the best account which the wisdom of this world can dictate in order to possess the land and control the destinies of this great republic. Gorgeous temples are built; political power is courted; innumerable bands

of virginity are formed; abounding and insidious efforts to seduce the children of Protestants into their schools are detected; and even the effrontery of demanding from the State an expulsion of the Bible from common schools and a part of the public revenue to support their own education has come on us to alarm and arouse our apathy. At this meeting of the Assembly, held in Cincinnati, one of the strong centres of popery in the United States, we have determined, with almost perfect unanimity, that "baptism in the Church of Rome is not valid," thus cutting loose the last embarrassment which entangled our arms in the conflict with Antichrist, and taking what we think a most important position in the advancing stage of this great controversy. Doubtless your sympathies with our opposition to Romanism is greatly enlivened by the recent munificence of your government to the college of Maynooth. It is but another development of essential ambition in this "Mystery" to blend herself with the arm of secular power, "to reign over kings," "to corrupt the earth with her fornication," and to "deceive all nations with her sorceries."

We hear of your missionary efforts at home and abroad with peculiar gratification. We hail them as brightly auspicious, and testify to you that we have found in this expansion of Christian character—the spirit of missions—pre-eminently "a bond of perfectness," tending more to purify, unite, and energize our Zion than all other expedients which the best wisdom and zeal among us could ever devise.

Our missions during the last year, both foreign and domestic, have been greatly prospered of God; and while we lament our unutterable shortcoming in this fundamental duty of the Christian Church, we fervently hope that our progress is onward—that we shall be honored more and more, through each succeeding year, to build up the waste places at home and publish salvation abroad, until peace within our Church shall be "like a river and the glory of the Gentiles as a flowing stream." We have felt indignant, dear brethren, at the strict interpretation of British law which disparages the functions of a Presbyterian ministry in solemnizing marriage when one of the parties belongs "to the Episcopal Establishment," and we hope your firm and Christian resistance of this indignity will be crowned with complete success.

We have reason to praise the Lord for exemption from all similar injustice on the part of Government and law in this country; and although we have many sins to mourn for as a nation, and cannot boast of immunity from error that mingles with the best institutions of men, we are called, in view of the many embarrassments which still betide religious liberty in Europe, to appreciate most highly the civil Constitution by which our privileges are regulated and secured.

You refer us to what you call "an evil which has long disfigured our civil polity," and submit to our consideration your resolution on the subject of slavery. We receive your communication on this subject with all the frankness and kindness which have dictated your whole letter. There is no disposition on our part either to repel the counsel of brethren abroad or evade responsibility and discussion on this momentous question at home.

We enclose to you a preamble and resolutions which we have just adopted with a nearly unanimous vote; in which you will see that we are not contented to slumber amidst the evils connected with slavery, nor to shun investigation of our duty to the bottom.

You are strangers, we presume, in a great measure, to the principal cause of the aggravations which attend domestic slavery in this country, such as the severity of particular laws enacted in the slaveholding States, and the extreme sensibility with which many of our fellow-citizens there refuse to receive

advice and entertain discussion. That cause is, mainly, the vehemence and fanatical intolerance with which many in what are called the free States urge on the South instant abolition, without regard to circumstances, consequences, or even warrant from the word of God itself. We hope that a better mind, and one in accordance with the paper we send you, will soon pervade every part of our otherwise harmonious country, and suffer that "knowledge of Christianity" you mention to penetrate all relations existing among us, and exert its native, free, transforming power over every institution which either necessity may suffer or wisdom perpetuate among men. In conclusion, we do again most earnestly express our desire for peace between your nation and ours. More and more deeply must we deplore threatening symptoms of national strife as we receive assurance of glowing affection from you; and we trust and pray that the God of nations, through Jesus Christ our blessed Mediator, may quell the angry passions of the people, direct the confused diplomaey of rulers, and combine all nations, and especially of Protestant Christendom, in one mighty alliance for advancing the interests of that kingdom which shall never be moved, the greatness of which, under the whole heaven, will be given to the saints of the Most High.

"May the Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who hath loved us, and given us everlasting consolation, and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts, and establish you in every good word and work."

JOHN M. KREBS, *Moderator*.

WM. M. ENGLES, *Stated Clerk*.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.

THE General Assembly has under its care *twenty-one* Synods, comprising *one hundred and fifteen* Presbyteries, viz.:

1. The Synod of Albany, containing the *four* Presbyteries of Londonderry, Troy, Albany, and Columbia.

2. The Synod of Buffalo, containing the *four* Presbyteries of Steuben, Wyoming, Ogdensburg, and Buffalo City.

3. The Synod of New York, containing the *six* Presbyteries of Hudson, North River, Bedford, Long Island, New York, and New York 2d.

4. The Synod of New Jersey, containing the *seven* Presbyteries of Elizabethtown, New Brunswick, West Jersey, Newton, Raritan, Susquehanna, and Luzerne.

5. The Synod of Philadelphia, containing the *eight* Presbyteries of Philadelphia, Philadelphia 2d, New Castle, Donegal, Baltimore, Carlisle, Huntingdon, and Northumberland.

6. The Synod of Pittsburgh, containing the *seven* Presbyteries of Blairsville, Redstone, Ohio, Allegheny, Beaver, Erie, and Clarion.

7. The Synod of Wheeling, containing the *four* Presbyteries of Washington, Steubenville, St. Clairsville, and New Lisbon.

8. The Synod of Ohio, containing the *seven* Presbyteries of Columbus, Marion, Zanesville, Richland, Wooster, Coshocton, and Hocking.

9. The Synod of Cincinnati, containing the *sic* Presbyteries of Chillicothe, Miami, Cincinnati, Oxford, Sidney, and Maumee.

10. The Synod of Indiana, containing the *five* Presbyteries of Salem, Vincennes, Madison, Crawfordsville, and Indianapolis.

11. The Synod of Northern Indiana, containing the *four* Presbyteries of Logansport, Michigan, Lake, and Fort Wayne.

12. The Synod of Illinois, containing the *six* Presbyteries of Kaskaskia, Sangamon, Schuyler, Palestine, Peoria, and Iowa.

13. The Synod of Missouri, containing the *five* Presbyteries of Missouri, St. Louis, Palmyra, Potosi, and Upper Missouri.

14. The Synod of Kentucky, containing the *five* Presbyteries of Louisville, Muhlenburg, Transylvania, West Lexington, and Ebenezer.

15. The Synod of Virginia, containing the *six* Presbyteries of Greenbrier, Lexington, Winchester, West Hanover, East Hanover, and Montgomery.

16. The Synod of North Carolina, containing the *three* Presbyteries of Orange, Fayetteville, and Concord.

17. The Synod of West Tennessee, containing the *five* Presbyteries of Holston, West Tennessee, Nashville, North Alabama, and Western District.

18. The Synod of South Carolina and Georgia, containing the *nine* Presbyteries of South Carolina, Bethel, Harmony, Charleston, Georgia, Hopewell, Flint River, Florida, and Cherokee.

19. The Synod of Alabama, containing the *three* Presbyteries of South Alabama, Tuscaloosa, and East Alabama.

20. The Synod of Mississippi, containing the *eight* Presbyteries of Mississippi, Louisiana, Clinton, Tombeckbee, Chickasaw, Arkansas, Indian, and New Orleans.

21. The Synod of Northern India, containing the *three* Presbyteries of Lodiana, Furrukabad, and Allahabad.

SUMMARY VIEW OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES FOR 1845.

PRESBYTERIES.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Com. added on Examination.	Com. added on Certificate.	Total of Communicants.	Adults Bap- tized.	Infants Bap- tized.	Funds raised for Domestic Missions.	Funds raised for Foreign Missions.	Funds raised for Education.	Funds raised for Board of Publication.	Funds raised for Theological Seminaries.	Commis- sion- ers' Fund.	Contingent Fund.	Miscellaneous Collections.	STATED CLERKS OF PRESBYTERIES.
Londonderry	21	...	...	...	10	...	...	1685	5	51	\$528	\$1014	\$884	.....	\$66	\$2 00	\$2221	E. D. Maltbie.
Troy	10	...	...	...	8	10	28	85	1779	4	151	1153	697	.....	144	41 25	3074	John Clancy.
Albany	35	5	19	...	26	35	107	3567	4	17	77	68	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	Alfred Gardner.
Columbia	6	1	...	...	3	9	16	17	879	2	27	21	93	.....	25	5 00	144	John A. Savage.
Ogdensburg	6	...	4	...	8	23	5	525	...	23	111	98	17	7	19	3 00	754	Thomas Aitken.
Steuben	9	...	...	...	6	6	17	527	1	15	41	86	.....	.....	12	50	80	Richard Kay.
Wyoming	8	...	1	...	8	18	44	519	...	35	114	127	.....	.....	27	18 31	502	Abraham T. Young.
Buffalo City	12	...	3	...	17	117	30	1688	47	94	243	344	36	.....	55	27	288	John H. Leggett.
Hudson	20	1	3	...	10	36	43	1149	10	62	146	380	30	38	49	19 23	730	John Johnston.
North River	12	3	1	...	15	51	19	1429	29	42	604	85	.....	50	44	12 04	.....	Jacob Green.
Bedford	15	2	1	...	17	49	39	2042	49	57	225	557	153	.....	35	9 31	722	James McDougall.
Long Island	15	3	3	...	17	146	273	4309	28	180	5852	7188	4528	16545	201	144 62	9001	John M. Krebs, D. D.
New York	30	17	8	...	31	48	1285	2	63	555	2162	540	.....	1500	10	40 00	.....	J. McElroy, D. D.
New York 2d	10	4	2	...	22	37	128	4628	10	171	1270	1318	43	740	73	20 00	3448	J. M. Hunting.
Elizabethtown	27	3	...	...	22	37	128	4628	10	171	1270	1318	43	740	73	20 00	3448	J. M. Hunting.
New Brunswick	36	11	5	...	21	129	223	4336	85	170	1213	1403	969	1764	.....	34 50	1902	Eli F. Cooley.
West Jersey	15	...	9	...	14	34	30	1589	11	83	343	518	117	3215	28	14 00	1767	Samuel Beach Jones.
Newton	27	5	4	...	25	110	56	3117	25	163	578	837	521	115	72	17 00	590	James McWilliam.
Raritan	10	...	3	...	12	63	24	1580	24	96	217	225	109	.....	26	49	148	P. O. Stoddard, D. D.
Susquehanna	9	...	2	...	15	32	9	585	10	43	35	49	17	27	38	2 50	.....	Julius Foster.
Luzerne	10	1	4	...	12	28	22	933	5	74	185	135	110	34	41	3 75	1490	Richard Webster.
Philadelphia	29	8	29	...	18	242	241	4529	16	322	2766	3573	2436	415	106	43 57	7677	Wm. M. Engles, D. D.
Philadelphia 2d	12	4	5	...	14	56	21	1087	20	30	183	397	198	13	16	13 00	1810	W. D. Howard.
New Castle	20	3	4	...	21	151	59	2671	31	125	531	864	447	38	60	14 28	3624	R. P. Du Bois.
Donegal	15	4	3	...	22	40	21	1427	7	57	273	392	129	10	33	4 00	198	Alfred Nevin.
Baltimore	20	8	5	...	23	91	85	2013	5	105	1422	1859	864	409	.....	11 00	2958	John C. Backus.
Carlisle	32	3	4	...	43	98	60	4265	8	118	459	752	.....	67	50	.....	.....	Thomas Creigh.
Huntingdon	20	1	7	...	36	140	96	5123	18	253	571	766	527	45	66	15 00	143	Wm. J. Gibson.
Northumberland	22	...	3	...	31	96	39	3044	12	93	447	742	236	6	71	15 00	1734	Isaac Grier.
Blairsville	24	1	6	...	38	286	112	4587	43	393	195	274	138	1113	88	11 50	.....	Adam Torrance.
Red Stone	16	2	5	...	30	91	48	2736	20	143	326	359	300	1145	40	8 00	.....	Samuel Wilson.
Ohio	41	8	13	...	32	201	195	3838	42	306	1376	1417	651	5434	7	36 12	859	Wm. B. McIvaine.

PRESBYTERIES.	STATED CLERKS OF PRESBYTERIES.																	
	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Com. added on Examination.	Com. added on Certificate.	Total of Com- municants.	Adults Bap- tized.	Infants Bap- tized.	Funds raised for Domestic Missions.	Funds raised for Foreign Missions.	Funds raised for Education.	Funds raised for Board of Publication.	Funds raised for Theological Seminaries.	Commission- ers' Fund.	Contingent Fund.	Miscellaneous Collections.	
Allegheny	13	2	9	22	115	37	2053	31	204	\$40	\$141	\$88	.....	\$383	\$34	\$5 50	\$4	John R. Agnew.
Beaver	11	3	3	29	93	71	1376	17	161	79	105	20	.....	112	22	3 50	241	A. Sydney McMaster.
Erie	13	1	5	20	72	55	2138	12	165	123	167	61	.....	103	41	5 75	184	John V. Reynolds.
Clarion	9	...	...	17	93	28	1415	11	123	13	76	35	.....	92	21	2 50	.....	David McCay.
Washington	24	8	11	29	171	127	3846	33	286	738	875	510	.....	1042	42	13 00	2039	John Eagleson.
Steubenville	17	3	2	26	85	65	2488	12	197	314	674	179	.....	651	14	.....	385	John H. Chambers.
St. Clairsville.....	11	1	4	20	101	33	1732	13	145	67	92	49	.....	486	37	.....	12	B. Mitchell.
New Lisbon	13	2	2	25	133	43	1956	21	154	195	493	152	.....	209	13	4 50	.....	Wm. O. Stratton.
Columbus	13	2	2	19	82	54	1304	15	117	363	442	166	\$50	113	45	.....	395	Josiah D. Smith.
Marion	11	...	3	23	68	43	1081	...	88	67	30	12	.....	.....	19	50	38	Wm. M. Galbreath.
Zanesville	13	1	...	21	81	70	1579	21	95	146	264	38	.....	171	...	7 50	.....	James Culbertson.
Richland	14	6	3	26	86	86	2160	22	212	111	129	39	.....	94	25	7 00	199	F. A. Shearer.
Wooster	11	1	1	17	36	46	1493	3	107	200	157	75	.....	143	41	4 50	92	Thos. H. Barr.
Coshocton	8	1	...	19	72	41	1493	9	124	83	80	51	.....	69	49	5 50	9	Edward R. Geary.
Hocking	5	...	...	8	18	20	448	5	47	37	28	2	.....	.....	33	1 50	.....	Wm. Aiken.
Chillicothe	16	1	6	21	74	67	2183	18	82	208	278	8	.....	100	2	3 50	166	John A. Dunlap.
Miami	15	2	4	25	73	89	1807	10	130	710	646	91	.....	272	...	3 00	1279	S. Ramsay Wilson.
Cincinnati	13	...	3	19	80	94	1503	11	81	393	710	180	.....	5	9	9 75	50	Thomas E. Hughs.
Oxford	16	2	5	28	41	34	1670	12	38	287	574	12	.....	145	10	.....	.....	W. B. Spence.
Sidney	11	2	...	17	48	40	1298	13	115	257	180	22	.....	166	18	5 50	.....	John M. Crabb.
Maumee	6	...	...	12	39	6	535	6	46	21	36	.....	.....	.....	8	...	83	James Wood, D. D.
Salem	12	6	13	22	32	35	1164	8	52	236	165	50	20	165	5	7 50	295	James Crawford.
Vincennes	10	...	...	16	28	12	673	5	56	82	27	9	1	1402	11	50	50	Daniel Lattimore.
Madison	10	...	2	14	27	39	707	14	35	131	190	56	.....	.....	18	2 00	25	W. A. Ferguson.
Crawfordsville	11	3	3	25	50	24	1168	2	24	159	....	1	.....	.....	...	.....	...	D. M. Stewart.
Indianapolis	11	3	2	22	84	44	1340	24	111	374	390	96	.....	122	26	.....	.....	Edward W. Wright.
Logansport	5	...	2	10	31	49	442	4	25	37	32	.....	.....	74	33	2 00	.....	
Michigan	7	...	...	12	...	...	405	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	11	3 75	25	James C. Brown.
Lake	7	1	...	14	17	42	422	6	10	31	65	.....	.....	.....	2	...	10	H. S. Dickson.
Fort Wayne	7	1	...	16	76	20	641	18	23	28	149	20	.....	.....	17	.....	108	C. C. Riggs.
Kaskaskia	9	1	1	24	24	37	779	4	35	17	26	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	John G. Bergen.
Sangamon	5	...	...	11	44	30	521	2	38	66	95	8	.....	.....	17	.....	...	James M. Chase.
Schuyler	10	...	...	20	32	19	528	7	26	6	1	.....	.....	.....	27	.....	.....	Isaac Bennett.
Palestine	9	...	6	16	10	7	631	1	26	30	22	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	.....	

PRESBYTERIES.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Com. added on Examination.	Certificate.	Total of Com- municants.	Adults Bap- tized.	Infants Bap- tized.	Funds raised for Domestic Missions.	Funds raised for Foreign Missions.	Funds raised for Education.	Funds raised for Board of Publication.	Funds raised for Theological Seminaries.	Commission- ers' Fund.	Contingent Fund.	Miscellaneous Collections.	STATED CLERKS OF PRESBYTERIES.
	13	...	2	26	75	58	760	25	74	\$178	\$86	\$30	.....	.....	\$41	\$7 10	.....	Jas. Weatherby. A. R. Banks.
Chickasaw	5	...	...	6	23	1	118	17	12	15	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Arkansas	5	1	1	4	54	76	573	4	69	1750	615	175	.....	.....	65	5 00	\$15038	Robt. I. Stanton.
Indian	4	1	...	1	4	...	16	...	3	.....	35	22	\$18	.....	.....	.....	50	John Newton.
New Orleans.....	5	...	...	1	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	J. L. Scott.
Lodiana	4	...	...	1	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Joseph Owens.
Furrukabad	5	...	...	1	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Allahabad.....	6	...	...	1	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	1562	224	346	2229	7329	5076	171879	1929	9608	\$39214	\$51692	\$26693	\$1342	\$41316	\$4492	\$877 53	105482	

GENERAL VIEW.

DURING the last ecclesiastical year the three new Presbyteries of Buffalo City, Fort Wayne, and New Orleans have been organized and duly recognized.

There have been added to the Church during the same period seven thousand three hundred and twenty-nine communicants on profession of their faith, and five thousand and seventy-six on certificate, making the whole number of communicants at present one hundred and seventy-one thousand eight hundred and seventy-nine.

There have also been reported—

Baptisms of adults.....	1929
Ditto of children.....	9608
Licenses.....	69
Ordinations.....	64
Installations.....	76
Dissolution of pastoral relation.....	46
New churches organized.....	55
Ministers dismissed to other denominations.....	10
Ministers received from other denominations.....	11

The following are reported as having died during the year, viz.:

NAMES.	PRESBYTERIES.
John Clark.....	North River.
James McEwen.....	2d Pres. of New York.
Sylvester Eaton.....	Elizabethtown.
David Lewis.....	Blairsville.
C. D. Cook.....	Marion.
Archibald Craig.....	Oxford.
William J. Patterson.....	"
Enoch Bouton.....	Lake.
Solomon G. Ward.....	Ebenezer.
Joseph F. Baxter.....	West Hanover.
George D. McCuenn.....	Orange.
Theophilus G. Potts.....	Fayetteville.
Allan McDougall.....	"
John B. Davies.....	Concord.
John Allison.....	Nashville.
Lyman W. Corbin.....	Flint River.
E. O. Martin.....	East Alabama.
John L. Montgomery.....	Louisiana.
Horace Beach.....	"
A. W. Kilpatrick.....	Chickasaw.
James M. Covington.....	Potosi.
Robert G. Barret.....	"
Alexander Boyd.....	Northumberland.

This mortality among the clergy is nearly double of last year.*

The whole number of ministers now in the Presbyterian Church is fifteen

*Since the above list was prepared the following deaths have occurred: Robert B. Bellville, New Castle; Edw. Pharr, Hopewell; Samuel Martin, D. D., Donegal.

hundred and sixty-two; the whole number of churches, two thousand two hundred and twenty-nine.

The amount collected for different benevolent objects, as far as reported, is two hundred and seventy thousand two hundred and eight dollars.

It is necessary again to state that from the defective character of many of the reports these several totals are only to be regarded as an approximation to the true state of the facts. Thus, as a single item upward of eighty thousand dollars have been received for Foreign Missions, as seen by the report of the Board, while less than fifty-two thousand are reported in the statistical tables of the Presbyteries.

WM. M. ENGLES,
Stated Clerk of the General Assembly.

1846.

PHILADELPHIA, *May 21st*, 1846.

THE General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America met agreeably to appointment in the Tenth Presbyterian Church, in the city of Philadelphia, on Thursday, the 21st day of May, A. D. 1846, at 11 o'clock A. M., and was opened with a sermon by the Rev. John M. Krebs, D. D., Moderator of the last Assembly, from Gal. vi. 14: "God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ."

After the sermon the Moderator took the chair, and opened the session with prayer.

The Permanent Clerk, from the Standing Committee on Commissions, reported that the following persons* present, had been duly appointed and are hereby enrolled as Commissioners to this General Assembly, and their commissions were laid on the table accordingly, viz.:

I. OF THE SYNOD OF ALBANY.

PRESBYTERIES.

Londonderry,
Troy,
Albany,

Columbia,

MINISTERS.

Loran Thayer (2),
Isaac O. Fillmore,
J. Trumbull Backus,
Ezra A. Huntingdon,
Alden Scovel.

RULING ELDERS.

Wm. Anderson.
Abraham Van Tuyl.
Wm. B. Hull.
Jeremiah Cooper.

II. OF THE SYNOD OF BUFFALO.

Ogdensburg.
Steuben,
Wyoming,
Buffalo City,

Lewis Cheeseman.
Pliny Twitcheil,
A. T. Young.

John B. Skinner.

III. OF THE SYNOD OF NEW YORK.

Hudson,
North River,
Bedford,
Long Island,
New York,

New York (2d),

James Adams,
John Johnston,
Jacob Green.
Hugh N. Wilson.
James McDonald,
John M. Krebs, D. D.,
M. T. Adam,

Martin L. Mapes.
Alson Sherwood.

Ebenezer Platt.
Cyrenius Beers.
Isaac Sayres (2).

IV. OF THE SYNOD OF NEW JERSEY.

Elizabethtown,

Wm. W. Blauvelt,
James T. English,

Benjamin McDowell.
John Littell.

* A figure affixed to a name shows that the member was not enrolled at the opening of the Assembly, but subsequently, and took his seat on that day of the session designated by the figure.

PRESBYTERIES.

*New Brunswick,**West Jersey,
Newton,**Raritan,
Susquehanna,
Luzerne,*

MINISTERS.

Ravaud K. Rodgers,
Charles Hodge, D. D.,
Samuel Beach Jones (3),
James McWilliam,
Wm. C. McGee,
P. O. Studdiford, D. D.,
S. H. Hazard.
John Dorrance,

RULING ELDERS.

Stacy G. Potts.
Joseph H. Davis (2).
Elijah D. Riley (2).
Daniel Hulshizer.
David Neighbour.
Wm. Wilson.
Wm. Wurts.

V. OF THE SYNOD OF PHILADELPHIA.

*Philadelphia,**Philadelphia (2d),
New Castle,
Donegal,
Baltimore,
Carlisle,**Huntingdon,**Northumberland,*John McDowell, D. D.,
Daniel Gaston,
Thomas B. Bradford,
Alex. G. Morrison,
John McNair,
Geo. W. Musgrave, D. D.,
Thomas V. Moore,
James Harper.
Briton E. Collins,
David McKinney, D. D.,
George W. Thompson,Alex. Symington.
Alex. W. Mitchell, M.D.
Chas. B. Beatty.
Benj. S. Miller.
James Whitehill.
Michael Stewart.
Andrew Blair.
Henry Brewster.
Wm. D. Shaw.
Wm. Warden.

VI. OF THE SYNOD OF PITTSBURGH.

*Blairsville,**Redstone,
Ohio,**Allegheny,
Beaver,
Erie,
Clarion,*Adam Torrance,
Joseph Painter (2),
A. G. Fairchild, D. D.,
Wm. Jeffrey,
R. J. Breckinridge, D. D.,
Newton Bracken,
B. C. Critchlow.
James W. Dickey,
Wm. Kennedy,Woodrow Douglass.
James Shields.
Aaron Baird.
Robert Hilands.
Robert C. Grier.
James Banks.
Archibald Tanner.
Alex. Guthrie.

VII. OF THE SYNOD OF WHEELING.

*Washington,
St. Clairsville,
Steubenville,
New Lisbon,*Robert M. White,
Alex. McCandless,
Jos. H. Chambers,
Jos. Kerr.James Moody.
Thomas Cummings.
Alex. Osborn.

VIII. OF THE SYNOD OF OHIO.

*Columbus,
Marion,
Zanesville,
Richland,
Wooster,
Coshocton,
Hocking,*Josiah D. Smith,
Wm. K. Brice.
John Arthur,
Samuel Moody.
Thos. H. Barr.
Addison Coffey,
Wm. Aikin.James Cherry.
Henry White.
George Weatherwax.

IX. OF THE SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

*Chillicothe.
Miami,*H. S. Fullerton,
John S. Weaver,James Stewart.
Samuel King.

PRESBYTERIES.

Cincinnati,
Oxford,
Sidney,
Maumee.

MINISTERS.

Samuel R. Wilson,
Thomas E. Thomas,
John A. Meeks,

RULING ELDERS.

Peter H. Kemper.
John Adams.
John M. Glover.

X. OF THE SYNOD OF INDIANA.

Salem,
Vincennes.

Sylvester Seovel.

Madison,
Crawfordsville,
Indianapolis,

James A. McKee,
N. P. Charlot.
A. T. Hendricks.

Daniel D. Jones.

XI. OF THE SYNOD OF NORTHERN INDIANA.

Logansport,
Michigan,
Lake,
Fort Wayne,

Thomas M. Chestnut.
E. S. Shepard.
Benjamin Ogden.
H. S. Dickson.

XII. OF THE SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.

Kaskaskia,
Sangamon,
Schuyler,
Palestine.
Peoria,
Iowa,

B. F. Spilman.
Andrew Todd.
Geo. Stebbins,

Marvin Tryon.

Robert F. Breese.
Michael Hummer,

John Woodman.

XIII. OF THE SYNOD OF MISSOURI.

Missouri,
St. Louis,
Palmyra,
Potosi,
Upper Missouri.

David Coulter.
R. S. Finley,
W. P. Cochran.
Amos H. Rogers.

Joseph Conway (2).

XIV. OF THE SYNOD OF KENTUCKY.

Louisville,
Muhlenburg,
Transylvania,
West Lexington,
Ebenezer,
Bowling Green,

Wm. L. Breckinridge, D. D., Mark Hardin.
F. N. Ewing.
J. C. Young, D. D.,
E. Forman,
J. S. H. Henderson,
James T. Lapsley,

Joseph Turner.
J. M. C. Irwin.
Wm. Houston.
Lewis Barrett.

XV. OF THE SYNOD OF VIRGINIA.

Greenbrier,
Lexington,
Winchester,
West Hanover,

East Hanover,
Montgomery,

James M. Brown,
F. McFarland, D. D.,
Warren B. Dutton,
Wm. C. Scott,
Wm. S. Reid, D. D.,
J. D. Dudley,
Wm. P. Hickman,

Wm. Rand (2).
John Trimble.
David Gibson (2).
Egbert G. Vaughan.
Wm. B. Miller (4).
Benj. W. Belsches.
C. W. McClanahan.

XVI. OF THE SYNOD OF NORTH CAROLINA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	RULING ELDERS.
<i>Orange,</i>	Wm. N. Mebane,	Dennis Heartt.
	S. J. P. Anderson (5).	
<i>Fayetteville,</i>	Colin Shaw,	Wm. S. Andres.
<i>Concord,</i>	J. F. W. Freeman,	John F. Phifer.

XVII. OF THE SYNOD OF WEST TENNESSEE.

<i>Holston,</i>	Samuel W. Doak,	George W. Telford.
<i>West Tennessee,</i>	John S. Watt.	
<i>Nashville,</i>	Philip Lindsley, D. D.,	James B. Reynolds.
<i>Western District,</i>	A. T. Graves,	E. H. Porter (4).

XVIII. OF THE SYNOD OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

<i>South Carolina,</i>	Wm. McWhorter,	Ephraim R. Calhoun.
<i>Bethel,</i>	James R. Gilland.	
<i>Harmony,</i>	Donald McQueen,	James K. Douglass.
<i>Charleston,</i>	B. M. Palmer, Jr.,	G. T. Snowden.

XIX. OF THE SYNOD OF GEORGIA.

<i>Georgia.</i>		
<i>Hopewell,</i>	Saml. K. Talmage, D. D.,	John R. Dow.
<i>Flint River,</i>	T. F. Montgomery.	
<i>Florida.</i>		
<i>Cherokee,</i>	Isaac W. Waddel.	

XX. OF THE SYNOD OF ALABAMA.

<i>South Alabama,</i>	H. A. Smith.	
<i>Tuscaloosa,</i>	John L. Kirkpatrick,	Richard T. Nott.
<i>East Alabama.</i>		

XXI. OF THE SYNOD OF MISSISSIPPI.

<i>Mississippi,</i>	B. H. Williams.	
<i>Louisiana,</i>	Wm. A. Scott, D. D.,	John E. C. Doremus.
<i>Clinton.</i>		
<i>Tombeckbee,</i>	James A. Lyon.	
<i>Chickasaw,</i>	Daniel Baker.	
<i>Arkansas,</i>	James W. Moore (6).	
<i>Indian.</i>		
<i>Brazos.</i>		

XXII. OF THE SYNOD OF NORTHERN INDIA,

In connection with the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

Lodiana.
Furrukabad.
Allahabad.

DELEGATES FROM CORRESPONDING BODIES.

<i>General Association of</i>	} Rev. O. Fowler.
<i>Connecticut.</i>	
<i>Evangelical Consociation of R. Island,</i>	

<i>General Association of</i>	}	Rev. S. Aiken,
<i>Massachusetts,</i>		Rev. J. T. Stearns.
<i>General Convention of</i>	}	Rev. J. K. Converse.
<i>Vermont,</i>		
<i>General Association of</i>	}	Rev. Eden B. Foster,
<i>New Hampshire,</i>		Rev. Pliny B. Day.
<i>General Conference of</i>	}	Rev. E. G. Parsons.
<i>Maine,</i>		
<i>General Synod of the</i>	}	Rev. John Garretson.
<i>Reformed Protestant</i>		
<i>Dutch Church,</i>	}	Rev. Joseph F. Berg, D. D.
<i>General Synod of the</i>		
<i>German Reformed</i>	}	
<i>Church,</i>		

The committee further reported that William A. Scott, D. D., minister, from the Presbytery of Louisiana, and Henry White, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Zanesville, are present without their commissions; and that James T. Lapsley, minister, and Lewis Barret, ruling elder, have presented commissions from the new Presbytery of Bowling Green.

The Stated Clerk reported that he had received official information that, agreeably to the order of the last Assembly, the Synods of South Carolina and Georgia have been respectively organized; that the Synod of Mississippi have merged the Presbytery of New Orleans into the Presbytery of Louisiana, and have received under their care the Presbytery of Brazos in Texas; that the Synod of Kentucky have organized the new Presbytery of Bowling Green; and that the Synod of Northern India was organized November 15th, 1845; whereupon, on motion, it was

Resolved, That the aforesaid Synods and Presbyteries be enrolled accordingly, and the Commissioners present therefrom be admitted to their seats.

On motion, Messrs. Ravaud K. Rodgers, Jacob Green, Samuel K. Wilson, Andrew Blair, and James B. Reynolds were appointed a committee of elections, to whom were referred the defective commissions.

And then the Assembly adjourned until this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

Thursday afternoon, 4 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Committee on Commissions reported the following additional Commissioners, who were enrolled—viz. Rev. John McNair, of the Presbytery of Donegal; Rev. A. T. Hendricks, of the Presbytery of Indianapolis; Rev. A. G. Fairchild, D. D., of the Presbytery of Redstone; Rev. John Johnston, of the Presbytery of North River; Rev. John A. Meeks, of the Presbytery of Sidney; Rev. J. F. W. Freeman, of the Presbytery of Concord; John B. Skinner, ruling elder, of the Presbytery of Wyoming; Stacy G. Potts, ruling elder, of the Presbytery of New Brunswick.

The Committee on Elections reported that they had been furnished with satisfactory evidence that the Rev. William A. Scott, D. D., was duly appointed a Commissioner by the Presbytery of Louisiana; that the Rev. Loran Thayer was duly appointed by the Presbytery of Londonderry, and Mr. Henry White, a ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Zanesville; and recommended their enrollment. The report was adopted.

The minutes were read and corrected.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the word "minister" be substituted for the word "bishop" in preparing the minutes.

On motion, the name of the North Alabama Presbytery was omitted from the roll, said Presbytery having been merged in that of West Tennessee.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That a majority of all the votes given for Moderator be necessary for a choice.

The Rev. Charles Hodge, D. D., was elected Moderator, and the Rev. Ravaud K. Rodgers, Temporary Clerk.

A communication was read from the Rev. Wm. M. Engles, D. D., resigning the office of Stated Clerk; whereupon the resignation was accepted, and on motion the thanks of the Assembly were tendered to Dr. Engles for his long and faithful services.

Five hundred copies of the roll were ordered to be printed for the use of the members.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That it be a standing order of this body to commence the morning sessions at nine o'clock A. M. and close them at one, and to commence the afternoon sessions at four P. M. and close them at six.

The Assembly then adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday morning, May 22d.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the calling of the roll be henceforward dispensed with.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Committee on Commissions reported the following additional Commissioners—viz. Joseph H. Davis, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of New Brunswick; Elijah D. Riley, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of West Jersey; William Rand, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Greenbrier; David Gibson, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Winchester; and Joseph Painter, minister, from the Presbytery of Blairsville.

The Moderator appointed the following Standing Committees, viz.:

Judicial Committee.—Messrs. McFarland, McDonald, Musgrave, Todd, W. C. Scott, Kirkpatrick, Green, Potts, Brewster, Grier, Turner, Vaughan, and Reynolds.

On Bills and Overtures.—Messrs. J. C. Young, Huntington, Blauvelt, Krebs, Moore, W. L. Breckinridge, S. Scovel, Jeffery, Dutton, Mitchell, Wm. Wilson, Irwin, Snowden, and Cummings.

On Foreign Correspondence.—Messrs. R. J. Breckinridge, McKinney, Talmage, Hardin, and Shaw.

On Leave of Absence.—Messrs. Studdiford, Backus, Fullerton, Shields, and McClanahan.

On Mileage.—Messrs. Symington, M. Stewart, and King.

On Devotional Exercises.—Messrs. McDowell, Palmer, Baker, Blair, and Hull.

On Finance.—Messrs. Platt, Mitchell, Douglass, Hugh N. Wilson, and Johnston.

On the Narrative.—Messrs. W. L. Breckinridge, Dickey, Harper, Van Tuyl, and Turner.

The following committees were appointed on Synodical records, viz.:

Albany.—Messrs. Adam, Spilman, and Glover.

Buffalo.—Messrs. White, Stebbins, and Heartt.

New York.—Messrs. Torrance, J. D. Smith, and Beatty.

New Jersey.—Messrs. A. Scovell, Kerr, and Woodman.

Philadelphia.—Messrs. A. T. Young, Chestnut, and Brewster.

Pittsburgh—Messrs. Coulter, Twitchell, and Jones.

Wheeling—Messrs. Finley, Critchlow, and Cherry.

Ohio—Messrs. English, Doak, and Baird.

Cincinnati—Messrs. Bradford, Dickson, and James Moody.

Indiana—Messrs. Ogden, Collins, and Tryon.

Northern Indiana—Messrs. Williams, Chambers, and Tanner.

Illinois—Messrs. Lyon, Thompson, and Osborn.

Missouri—Messrs. McKee, Morrison, and Hilands.

Kentucky—Messrs. Barr, Gaston, and Wurts.

Virginia—Messrs. Kennedy, Arthur, and Cooper.

North Carolina—Messrs. Adams, McGee, and Guthrie.

West Tennessee—Messrs. H. A. Smith, Fillmore, and Neighbour.

South Carolina—Messrs. Green, McWilliam, and Doremus.

Georgia—Messrs. S. R. Wilson, Charlot, and Banks.

Alabama—Messrs. Hickman, Graves, and Calhoun.

Mississippi—Messrs. Brown, Lapsley, and Dow.

On motion, the report of the Board of Foreign Missions was made the order of the day for 10 o'clock next Monday morning;

The report of the Board of Domestic Missions for 10 o'clock next Tuesday morning;

The report of the Board of Education for 10 o'clock next Wednesday morning;

The report of the Board of Publication for 10 o'clock next Thursday morning.

A communication from the General Association of Massachusetts was read, and referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

A communication from the Rev. Dr. Durbin, pastor of the Union Methodist Church, requesting supplies for the pulpit of said church, was received, and referred to the Committee on Devotional Exercises.

The Assembly then proceeded to determine the place of meeting of the next General Assembly; and it was agreed that the next General Assembly be required to meet in the First Presbyterian Church in the city of Richmond, Virginia.

The following resolution was offered, and after some discussion laid on the table, viz.:

Resolved, That the following be added to the General Rules, viz.: When a member wishes to bring before the House a subject which has not been presented by the Committee of Bills and Overtures, it shall be the privilege of any other member to raise the question of consideration. The mover may then occupy five minutes in stating his reasons why the subject should be considered; after which the inquiry shall be made, "Will the House take up the subject proposed?" This question shall be put without debate.

Certain complaints and references were presented, and referred to the Judicial Committee.

A letter from the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, and a letter from the Synod of Canada, were read, and referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

A letter from the General Association of Connecticut was referred to the same committee.

A letter from the Presbytery of Allahabad was read, and referred to the Committee on the Narrative.

An overture from the Presbytery of Washington, and a petition from certain members of the Richland Presbytery, were received and referred to the Committee of Bills and Overtures.

The report of the Treasurer of the Trustees of the General Assembly was read, and referred to the Committee on Finance.

On motion, it was made the order of the day for 4 o'clock this afternoon to hand in the narratives of the state of religion; and for half-past 4 o'clock, to proceed to the election of a Stated Clerk.

Reports were received from the Rev. Thomas L. Janeway, delegate to the General Convention of Vermont, and the Rev. E. P. Humphrey, delegate to the General Association of Massachusetts, which were read, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix.

Several copies of the minutes of the General Convention of Vermont were presented to the Assembly by the delegate from that body.

The reports of the Trustees and of the Directors of the Western Theological Seminary were read and referred to the following committee—viz. Messrs. Green, Musgrave, Backus, Doremus, and W. Wilson.

And then the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday afternoon.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Committee on Commissions reported as an additional Commissioner Isaac Sayres, ruling elder, from the Second Presbytery of New York.

The Assembly proceeded to the first order of the day—viz. the handing in of the Presbyterial narratives on the state of religion. On motion, it was

Resolved, That the delegates from corresponding bodies be requested to give an account of the state of religion within their respective bounds.

The Rev. O. Fowler, delegate from the Consociation of Rhode Island, the Rev. J. K. Converse, delegate from the General Convention of Vermont, and the Rev. S. Aiken, delegate from the General Association of Massachusetts, were heard accordingly; after which the narratives from the Presbyteries were presented, and put in the hands of the Committee on the Narrative.

The Rev. John Garretson, delegate from the General Synod of the Reformed Dutch Church, was introduced to the Assembly, and took his seat accordingly.

The Assembly then proceeded to the second order of the day, the election of a Stated Clerk, when the Rev. Willis Lord of Philadelphia was elected to that office.

An overture from the Presbytery of West Lisbon and an overture from the Synod of Alabama were received and referred to the Committee of Bills and Overtures.

The report of the Union Theological Seminary was read, and referred to a committee consisting of Messrs. Musgrave, Talmage, Baker, Guthrie, and Blauvelt.

An overture from West Hanover Presbytery was received and referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures.

A memorial from the Presbytery of Louisiana was read, and referred to a committee consisting of Messrs. Johnston, Green, Kirkpatrick, Potts, and Woodman.

The report of the Rev. John D. Matthews, delegate to the General Conference of Maine, was read, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix.

Messrs. Lyon, Mebane, and G. W. Thompson were appointed a committee to nominate delegates to corresponding bodies.

A memorial from the Presbytery of Chickasaw, and an overture from the Presbytery of Western District, in reference to the formation of a new Synod,

were read, and referred to a committee consisting of Messrs. R. J. Breckinridge, Williams, Coffey, Stewart, and Hardin.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Nos. 1, 2, and 3, which were disposed of as follows, viz.:

Overture No. 1. An overture from the Presbytery of Carlisle proposing a change in the form of exhibiting their annual expenditures in the reports of some of the Boards of the Church. The committee recommended that the Executive Committees of the Boards of Missions, Education, and Publication set forth in their annual reports the particular items of their expenditure in the same circumstantial manner in which the Board of Foreign Missions present theirs; which recommendation was adopted.

Overture No. 2. An overture from the Synod of Pittsburgh containing suggestions in reference to the operations of the Board of Publication, which was referred to the committee hereafter to be appointed on the report of the Board of Publication.

Overture No. 3. An overture from the Presbytery of New York on erecting a new Presbytery in Wisconsin; pending the discussion on which the hour of adjournment arrived,

And the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday morning, May 23.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Committee on Commissions reported as additional Commissioners Samuel Beach Jones, minister, from the Presbytery of West Jersey; Enoch S. Shepard, minister, from the Presbytery of Michigan; and Benjamin W. Belsehes, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of East Hanover.

Several copies of the minutes of the Reformed Dutch Church were laid on the table by the delegate from that body for the use of the members.

Several copies of the acts of the General Assembly and other documents from the Free Church of Scotland were laid on the table by the Permanent Clerk, and distributed, on motion, among the theological seminaries and the Board of Publication.

A memorial from the Presbytery of Tombeekbee, on the subject of a new Synod, was read and referred to the committee on that subject.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises presented a report which was adopted, and is as follows, viz.:

"The Committee on Devotional Exercises recommend that a prayer-meeting be held by the Assembly on Wednesday afternoon next at 4 o'clock, and that the following be the order of exercises, viz.: 1. A statement of the object of the meeting and Invocation by the Moderator. 2. Reading the Scriptures and Psalmody by the Rev. John Johnston of the Presbytery of North River. 3. Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Foster of the General Association of New Hampshire. 4. Address by the Rev. A. Todd of Sangamon Presbytery. 5. Psalmody and address by the Rev. Mr. Kirkpatrick of Alabama. 6. Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Coffey of the Presbytery of Coshooton. 7. Psalmody and Benediction by the Moderator. The committee further report that, agreeably to request, they have appointed supplies for two Sabbaths to the Methodist Union Church, and for the next Sabbath to the Methodist Schuylkill Sixth Church."

A resolution was offered, instructing the committee to make arrangements for the celebration of the Lord's Supper by the Assembly; and after discussion the whole subject was, on motion, laid on the table.

A letter was read from the Secretary of the Executive Committee of the

House of Refuge inviting the members of this Assembly to visit the institution; whereupon it was resolved that the Clerk return the respectful acknowledgments of the body.

The Rev. John Garretson, delegate from the Reformed Dutch Church, made a statement in regard to the state of religion within the bounds of that body.

The Assembly being informed that neither of the persons appointed, as principal or alternate, to preach the annual sermon on popery would be present, the Rev. W. L. Breckinridge, D. D., was appointed to preach said sermon next Tuesday evening, in this church, at a quarter before eight o'clock.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overtures Nos. 4, 5, 6, and 7, which were disposed of as follows, viz.:

Overture No. 4. A memorial from the Presbytery of Miami on the subject of secret societies. The committee recommended the adoption of the following resolution, viz.:

Resolved, That it is inexpedient for the General Assembly to legislate on the subject. The recommendation was adopted.

Overture No. 5. An overture from the Synod of New Jersey on the subject of discouraging the division of weak churches, was referred to the committee hereafter to be appointed on the report of the Board of Missions.

Overture No. 6. A memorial from the Presbytery of Miami on alterations of the works of authors published by the Board of Publication, was referred to the committee hereafter to be appointed on the report of the Board of Publication.

Overture No. 8. A resolution from the Presbytery of Montgomery, advising the appointment by the General Assembly of delegates to the convention to be held in London with a view to form a Christian Union. The committee recommended the following resolution, which was adopted, viz.:

Resolved, That it is inexpedient for the General Assembly to appoint delegates to said convention.

The Judicial Committee reported Case No. 1, a complaint of Messrs. Young and Coulter against the Synod of Pittsburgh, which was read and recommended.

The Assembly then proceeded to the unfinished business of yesterday—viz. a recommendation from the Committee on Bills and Overtures, which was adopted, and is as follows, viz.:

Resolved, That the Rev. Messrs. Silas Pratt, of the Presbytery of Steuben, M. A. Fox, of the Presbytery of Wooster, and Aaron L. Lindsley and Thomas Frazer, Jr., of the Presbytery of New York, who are laboring in the Territory of Wisconsin, together with such churches of our connection as have been or may be organized within the limits of that Territory, be and they are hereby constituted a Presbytery, to be called the Presbytery of Wisconsin; that they hold their first meeting at Prairieville on Saturday, July 18th, at 10 o'clock, A. M. (or at such other time and place as, on consultation among themselves, shall appear to be more convenient), to be opened with a sermon by Mr. Pratt, or in his absence by the oldest minister present, who shall also preside until a Moderator be chosen; that upon their organization the ministers aforesaid be *ipso facto* detached from the Presbyteries to which now they respectively belong, and that the new Presbytery hereby constituted be attached to the Synod of Illinois.

The decease of Solomon Allen, Esq., and the resignation of Alexander Henry, Esq., members of the Board of Trustees of the General Assembly, were announced, whereupon it was

Resolved, That the resignation of Mr. Henry be accepted, and the thanks of the Assembly tendered to him for his long and faithful services.

The Assembly then proceeded to nominate individuals to fill the above vacancies; and the election was made the order of the day for Tuesday afternoon, at half-past four o'clock.

The report of the committee on parochial schools was read, when it was agreed that five hundred copies be printed for the use of the members, and the further consideration of the subject be made the order of the day for Thursday afternoon, at four o'clock.

And then the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday morning, May 25.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Committee on Commissions reported as additional Commissioners William B. Miller, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of West Hanover; E. H. Porter, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Western District; Rev. Messrs. Eden B. Foster and Pliny B. Day, delegates from the General Association of New Hampshire.

Letters were read from Charles Chauncey, Esq., and Rev. H. A. Boardman, resigning their respective offices as Trustees of the General Assembly; whereupon their resignations were accepted and the thanks of the Assembly tendered to them for their faithful services.

It was made the order of the day for four o'clock this afternoon to receive nominations to fill the above vacancies.

On motion, Messrs. Montgomery and S. B. Jones were appointed a committee to draft a suitable minute in reference to the decease of Solomon Allen, Esq., late a Trustee of this Assembly.

A communication was read from the Rev. S. Aiken, a delegate from the General Association of Massachusetts, taking leave of the Assembly.

A report from the Rev. William Neill, D. D., delegate to the Evangelical Consociation of Rhode Island, was read, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix.

The Judicial Committee reported Cases Nos. 2 and 3, which were read and disposed of as follows, viz.:

No. 2, a reference from the Presbytery of Fayetteville in the case of the Rev. Archibald McQueen, was placed on the docket.

No. 3, a complaint of Messrs. Tate, McIver, and others against the Presbytery of Fayetteville, was read and placed on the docket.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported, informing the Assembly that a proposition had been made to them by the Committee on Devotional Exercises of the Triennial General Assembly meeting in the First Presbyterian Church, to the effect that the two Assemblies unite in the celebration of the Lord's Supper, and recommending the following resolution, viz.:

Resolved, That this General Assembly accept the proposition of the General Assembly meeting in the First Presbyterian Church—viz. that the two Assemblies unite in the celebration of the Lord's Supper; and that the Committee on Devotional Exercises, in connection with the corresponding committee of the other Assembly, make arrangements for the same.

Pending the discussion on this subject, the order of the day arrived—viz. the report of the Board of Foreign Missions. The report was accepted, and referred to a committee consisting of Messrs. Fairchild, H. N. Wilson, Dutton, Whitehill, and Hardin.

A letter was read from Professor Thornwell stating his inability to be present and preach the annual sermon on popery; whereupon it was

Resolved, That Professor Thornwell and Professor Green be reappointed to this duty next year, the first as principal, the second as alternate.

The unfinished business was then resumed—viz. the joint celebration of the Lord's Supper by the two Assemblies. Pending the discussion, the hour of adjournment arrived.

A communication from the Board of Publication in reference to a legacy of Mr. Brand was read and referred to a committee consisting of Messrs. Grier and Platt.

And then the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday afternoon.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The committee on the memorials from the Presbyteries of Chickasaw and Western District on the formation of a new Synod presented a report, which was read and placed on the docket.

The order of the day was taken up, and nominations were made to fill vacancies in the Board of Trustees.

The Rev. Mr. Palmer, a member of the Committee on Devotional Exercises, presented a counter-report on the joint celebration of the Lord's Supper by the two Assemblies; which was laid on the table.

On motion, the unfinished business of the morning was resumed.

It was moved to refer this whole subject to a special committee, with instructions to bring in a minute expressive of the views of this Assembly.

Pending discussion the hour of adjournment arrived,

And then the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday morning, May 26.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Committee on Commissions reported as an additional Commissioner S. J. P. Anderson, minister, from the Presbytery of Orange.

The committee on the ninth annual report of the Board of Foreign Missions presented a report which was read and placed on the docket.

A memorial from the First African Church on slavery was received and put into the hands of the Committee on Bills and Overtures.

The Rev. Mr. Parsons, delegate from the General Conference of Maine, was heard in reference to the state of religion within its bounds, and at the same time took leave of the Assembly.

The unfinished business of yesterday was resumed. A motion was made to postpone the question of commitment with a view to consider a substitute; pending the discussion on which the order of the day was taken up.

The report of the Board of Missions was read, and referred to a committee consisting of Messrs. Musgrave, Ogden, Mebane, Douglass, and Davis.

On motion, it was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning, at half-past nine o'clock, to fill vacancies in the Boards of Domestic and Foreign Missions; and nominations were made for the former accordingly.

The report of the Directors of the Theological Seminary at Princeton was read, approved, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix. The election of directors to fill vacancies was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning, at nine o'clock. Nominations for the vacancies were then made.

The twenty-fourth annual report of the Trustees of the Theological Seminary at Princeton was read, and referred to the Committee on Finance.

On motion, it was made the order of the day for Thursday morning, at half-past nine o'clock, to fill the vacancies in the Board of Directors of the Western Theological Seminary.

And then the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday afternoon.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The committees on the records of the Synod of South Carolina and the Synod of Georgia reported that said records were not put in their hands, and were discharged.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overtures Nos. 8, 9, and 10, which were disposed of as follows, viz.:

Overture No. 8. An overture from the Presbyteries of Washington and Greenbrier on the subject of a new Presbytery was read and referred to a committee consisting of Messrs. Blauvelt, Torrance, J. D. Smith, James Moody, and Douglass.

Overture No. 9. An overture from the Synod of Alabama requesting the Assembly to instruct the Stated Clerk to add another column to the blank statistical reports of Presbytery, headed "Colored Communicants," was read, and referred to a committee consisting of Messrs. John McDowell, Jeffery, and Chambers.

Overture No. 10. An overture from the Presbytery of Zanesville in reference to the future editions of our Psalms and Hymns was read and referred to the Board of Publication.

An overture sent down by the last Assembly to the Presbytery of Muhlenburg and others on the formation of a new Synod was read and placed on the docket.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence reported an answer to be sent to the Synod of Canada, which was read and placed on the docket.

The Assembly then proceeded to the order of the day; when the Rev. Cortlandt Van Rensselaer, D. D., Rev. John M. Krebs, D. D., Alexander W. Mitchell, M. D., and James Dunlap, Esq., were duly chosen to fill vacancies in the Board of Trustees of the General Assembly.

The committee on the recommendation of the Board of Publication to abandon any further legal measures to secure a bequest of the late Benjamin Brand of Richmond reported the following resolution, which was adopted, viz.:

Resolved, That this Assembly approve of the action of the Board of Publication on this subject.

The Judicial Committee reported Case No. 1, a complaint of Loyal Young and John Coulter against the Synod of Pittsburgh, which was placed on the docket.

The unfinished business was resumed, pending which the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday morning, May 27.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave to Messrs. W. A. Scott, Skinner, Cooper, and Whitehill.

The committee on the annual report of the Directors of the Union Theological Seminary reported, recommending its approval and publication in the Appendix. The recommendation was adopted.

The Committee on Elections reported that the Rev. James W. Moore had been nominated or selected by the Presbytery of Arkansas at their meeting in last September, but that the Presbytery had been prevented by high waters from meeting since, and consequently there could be no election. The committee referred the case to the Assembly for their decision. On motion, Mr. Moore was admitted to a seat. Dr. McFarland and others gave notice of their intention to protest.

The Rev. Mr. Garretson, delegate from the Reformed Dutch Church, took his leave of the Assembly.

A communication from Archibald Watt was received and laid on the table.

Nominations were made to fill vacancies in the Board of Directors of the Western Theological Seminary.

The Assembly then proceeded to the orders of the day, when the following persons were re-elected to fill the vacancies in the Board of Directors of the Theological Seminary at Princeton, viz.:

MINISTERS.

Gardiner Spring, D. D.,
William A. McDowell, D. D.,
William Neill, D. D.,
William Latta, D. D.,
William D. Snodgrass, D. D.,
Joseph McElroy, D. D.,
George W. Musgrave, D. D.

RULING ELDERS.

John F. Woodhull, M. D.,
Hugh Auchincloss,
Alex. W. Mitchell, M. D.

The following persons were elected to fill vacancies in the Board of Foreign Missions, viz.:

MINISTERS.

John T. Edgar, D. D.,
Charles Hodge, D. D.,
Archibald Alexander, D. D.,
Wm. M. Atkinson, D. D.,
John C. Backus,
Henry A. Boardman, D. D.,
Matthew Brown, D. D.,
Robert J. Breekinridge, D. D.,
John N. Campbell, D. D.,
Henry R. Wilson, D. D.,
Henry R. Weed, D. D.,
Wm. Neill, D. D.,
Samuel B. Wilson, D. D.,
Peyton Harrison,
Samuel Beach Jones.

LAYMEN.

James Adger,
James Agnew,
John H. Hill,
J. S. Copes, M. D.,
Hugh Auchincloss,
A. G. McIlwaine,
Moses Allen,
Walter Lowrie,
Harmar Denny,
William Shear,
William Steele,
James Donaldson,
James Whitehill,
Samuel C. Henderson,
Charles Chauncy,
Edgar C. Wilson.

For one year—A. R. Walsh.

The following persons were elected to fill vacancies in the Board of Missions, viz.:

MINISTERS.

William S. Plumer, D. D.,
James Hode, D. D.,
C. C. Cuyler, D. D.,
J. J. Janeway, D. D.,

LAYMEN.

William Shear,
Matthew Newkirk,
Thomas Henderson,
George Morris,

MINISTERS.

Henry A. Boardman, D. D.,
John Gray, D. D.,
Francis McFarland, D. D.,
William S. Potts, D. D.,
David Magie, D. D.,
Joseph H. Jones, D. D.,
Jacob Green,
J. C. Young, D. D.,
J. W. Alexander, D. D.,
Alexander Macklin,
David McKinney, D. D.

LAYMEN.

Robert Wallace,
James N. Dickson,
J. D. Williams,
J. Cowper, M. D.,
E. M. Donaldson,
Robert Soutter, Jr.

The report of the Board of Education was read and referred to a committee consisting of Messrs. Dorrance, Jeffery, Todd, Guthrie, and Gibson.

On motion, nominations were received to fill vacancies in the Board, and the election was made the order of the day for 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the second article of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Board of Education be so amended that the Corresponding Secretary shall be, *ex-officio*, a member of the Board.

The memorial of the Presbytery of Muhlenburg on the formation of a new Synod was referred to a committee consisting of Messrs. Huntington, Chesnut, Brown, Cummings, and Trimble.

A memorial from the Synod of Georgia on the subject of making provision for the children of missionaries was received and referred to the Board of Foreign Missions.

The unfinished business was resumed; and on motion, all the papers relating to the subject were committed to a committee consisting of Messrs. Musgrave, Todd, Young, W. L. Breckinridge, S. B. Jones, Grier, Davis, and Vaughan, with instructions to bring in a minute expressive of the views of the Assembly.

A communication was read from the General Association of Connecticut, accompanied with a copy of a new book of Psalms and Hymns published by them. It was

Resolved, That the courtesy of that body be respectfully acknowledged, the volume be deposited in the library of the Board of Publication, and a copy of the book of Psalms and Hymns published by this Assembly be presented to the Association.

The delegates from the General Association of New Hampshire presented a statement of the state of religion within its bounds.

And then the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday afternoon.

The Assembly met, and spent some time, according to previous arrangement, in devotional exercises.

After which the minutes were read and approved.

The committee on the report of the Board of Missions presented a report, which was received and made the order of the day for half-past eleven o'clock to-morrow morning.

The committee appointed to draft a minute in reference to the death of the late Solomon Allen, Esq., reported the following, which was adopted, viz.:

This Assembly has learned with much regret the decease of Mr. Solomon Allen, for many years a member of the Board of Trustees of this body, and

it deems it but a reasonable tribute to the memory of Mr. Allen to record its testimony to the disinterested zeal and unwearied fidelity with which he discharged his various and responsible duties as a Trustee of the General Assembly, and also as a member of each of the Boards of the Church.

Resolved further, That a certified copy of this minute be sent to the family of the deceased.

The committee on the report of the Trustees and Directors of the Western Theological Seminary recommended its approval and publication in the Appendix to the *Minutes*; and the recommendation was adopted.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Alabama reported, recommending their approval to p. 181; and their report was adopted.

And then the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday morning, May 28.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave to Messrs. McNair and Potts.

The committee on the records of the Synods of New Jersey and Wheeling reported, recommending approval; which recommendation was adopted.

The Assembly proceeded to the order of the day, and the following persons were elected Directors of the Western Theological Seminary, viz.:

MINISTERS.

D. McConaughy, D. D.,
A. O. Patterson, D. D.,
R. J. Breekinridge, D. D.,
A. D. Campbell, D. D.,
R. Dunlap,
S. Wilson,
A. McCready.

RULING ELDERS.

Alexander Laughlin,
F. G. Baily,
Thomas Kiddoo.

The committee on the report of the Board of Foreign Missions reported the following resolutions, which were adopted, viz.:

1. *Resolved*, That the report of the Board of Foreign Missions be approved, and referred to the Executive Committee for publication.

2. *Resolved*, That this Assembly consider the work of diffusing a missionary spirit among our churches at home, and the consequent spread of the Church in foreign lands, as of great importance in itself, and its prosecution a great advantage to any Church and an evidence of God's Spirit among them.

3. *Resolved*, That while we rejoice over the indications of an increased missionary spirit in some of our churches, we feel called upon also to grieve that so many do nothing in aid of this cause, and cordially invite such of our brethren as aid the heathen through other channels to unite with us in the great enterprise of spreading the Redeemer's kingdom, both as a means of reaching the heathen no less directly than by their present mode of operation, and also as a means of increasing the spirit of missions in the Church.

4. *Resolved*, That as a means of awakening a proper spirit in our churches we recommend to every Session to consult prayerfully over this matter, especially in reference to the circulation of the *Missionary Chronicle* and *Foreign Missionary*; to all our church members to observe diligently the monthly concert; and to the Executive Committee to hold missionary conventions in central points of influence, especially where the spirit of the churches is defective or declining.

5. *Resolved*, That in view of the fact that by the different fields now occupied the Church is brought into direct contact with three-fourths of the heathen world, with large masses of Mohammedans in India, with popery in Europe, and with the seed of Abraham, the time has fully come when the whole Church should unite as one man in earnest prayer for the divine blessing, and in furnishing the means necessary to carry forward this work.

6. *Resolved*, That this Assembly, entertaining no doubt of the ability of our churches to sustain this enterprise, recommend that the Board increase as rapidly as possible the force at each station, and follow as far as practicable the indications of Providence in opening new fields, ever remembering that the greatest ultimate success at each station will be secured by the most thorough and patient instruction of those reached by its instrumentality.

7. *Resolved*, That as the blessings of the gospel are yet in store for the house of Israel, it is the duty of the Church to preach Christ and him crucified to the Jews in this and foreign countries, as well as to the Gentiles; and the General Assembly believe that the time has come for them to engage in this great work; and they would again express their full conviction of the ability of the Church to sustain a mission to the seed of Abraham without impeding enlarged and increased efforts for the perishing heathen.

8. *Resolved*, That as Texas has now become one of the States of the Union, the care of the missions in that State be transferred to the (Domestic) Board of Missions.

9. *Resolved*, That this Assembly express to all their missionaries their affectionate sympathy and encouragement. Whilst we exhort and charge all our brethren in the foreign field to be diligent and faithful in their great work, our daily prayer is that the Saviour may be present with them and that the blessing of the Holy Spirit may rest upon their labors.

On motion, the consideration of the reference from the Presbytery of Fayetteville was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock.

The Assembly proceeded to the second order of the day and the following persons were re-elected members of the Board of Education—viz. to serve four years:

MINISTERS.

Samuel Miller, D. D.,
Joseph H. Jones, D. D.,
Francis Herron, D. D.,
C. C. Cuyler, D. D.,
H. A. Boardman, D. D.,
Francis McFarland, D. D.,
Wm. B. Sprague, D. D.,
Wm. M. Engles, D. D.

LAYMEN.

William Maxwell,
Stephen Colwell,
Thomas Bradford,
A. J. Miller,
James Lenox,
John J. Bryant,
James Dunlap,
James A. Dickson,
George Morris.

For the unexpired term of Mr. Solomon Allen, deceased, Mark Hardin.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overtures Nos. 11, 12, and 13, which were disposed of as follows, viz.:

Overture No. 11. An overture from the Presbytery of West Hanover in reference to securing greater accuracy and completeness in the statistical tables was referred to the Stated and Permanent Clerks, with directions to report to the next Assembly.

Overture No. 12. An overture from the Second Presbytery of Philadelphia to extend its bounds was referred to a committee consisting of Messrs. Moore, Torrance, Thompson, Grier, and Banks.

Overture No. 13. An overture from the Presbytery of Philadelphia on the demission of the ministerial office was referred to a committee consisting of Messrs. R. J. Breckinridge, McKinney, Kirkpatrick, Douglass, and Whitehill.

A communication was read from the Rev. Mr. Day, one of the delegates from the General Association of New Hampshire, taking leave of the Assembly.

The report of the delegate to the German Reformed Synod, the Rev. James Williamson, was read, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix.

A resolution in reference to the quorum question was offered, and referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures.

The committee to whom were referred all papers relating to the joint celebration of the Lord's Supper by the two Assemblies, with instructions to bring in a minute expressive of the views of the Assembly, presented a report, which was adopted, and is as follows, viz.:

The Committee on Devotional Exercises having reported to this General Assembly a communication from a similar committee of the General Assembly in session at the First Presbyterian Church, representing that the said Assembly has authorized its committee to confer with the committee of this Assembly in relation to a joint celebration of the Lord's Supper by the two bodies; it was ordered that the committee respectfully acknowledge and reciprocate the courtesy of the communication, and say in reply that while this Assembly recognizes the above-mentioned body as a branch of the Church of our common Lord, and for this reason would, as individuals, under appropriate circumstances, unite with our brethren in the celebration of divine ordinances, yet, as this Assembly has never in its corporate and official capacity united with any other ecclesiastical body in celebrating the Lord's Supper, it judges it inexpedient to institute a new usage at this time.

On motion, the Committee on Devotional Exercises were directed to communicate a copy of the above minute to the committee of the other Assembly.

From the above proceedings Peter H. Kemper, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Cincinnati, had leave to enter his dissent.

The order of the day was taken up, and the report of the Board of Publication was read and referred to a committee consisting of Messrs. Studdiford, Palmer, Spilman, Platt, and Reynolds.

Nominations were made to fill vacancies in the Board of Publication, and the election was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning, at nine o'clock.

The committee on the memorials from the Presbyteries of Chickasaw and Western District on the formation of a new Synod reported, recommending that the prayer of the memorialists be not granted.

It was moved to amend the report by striking out the word "not," and the amendment was adopted.

It was then on motion,

Resolved, That a new Synod be, and hereby is erected, to be called the Synod of Memphis, and to be composed of the Presbyteries of Western District, Chickasaw, Arkansas, and Indian.

Resolved, Further, that the Synod of Memphis hold its first meeting in Memphis on the 4th day of November, 1846, at 7 o'clock P. M., and be opened with a sermon by the Rev. Daniel Baker, or, in case of his absence or inability to act, by the oldest minister present, who shall preside until a Moderator be chosen.

The Rev. Joseph F. Berg, D. D., delegate from the German Reformed Church, appeared, and took his seat in the Assembly.

On motion, the order of the day—viz. the consideration of the report of

the Board of Domestic Missions—was postponed for the present, and made the order of the day for to-morrow morning, at 10 o'clock.

On motion, the report of the Judicial Committee on Case No. 2—viz. the reference of the Presbytery of Fayetteville in the case of the Rev. Archibald McQueen—was taken up, and the subject indefinitely postponed.

The report of the Judicial Committee on Case No. 3—viz. the complaint of Messrs. Tate, McIver, and others against the Presbytery of Fayetteville in the case aforesaid—was taken up and adopted, and is as follows, viz. :

A complaint of the Rev. Robert Tate, Colin McIver, and others was put into the hands of the committee, in which they complain of a decision of the Presbytery of Fayetteville by which they refused to reconsider certain decisions made at a former meeting of the Presbytery touching the case of the Rev. Archibald McQueen. The committee are unanimously of the opinion that the General Assembly cannot entertain this complaint, inasmuch as the complainants did not avail themselves of their right to complain of the aforesaid decisions within the time and in the manner specified in our Book of Discipline. The committee believe that it was never intended that those who thus waived their right should have the right at a subsequent meeting of the judicatory, on a mere motion to reconsider, to bring the whole previous action by complaint before the higher judicatory.

The committees on the records of the Synods of Cincinnati and Missouri reported, recommending approval, and their reports were adopted.

A motion was made to reconsider the vote on the reference from the Presbytery of Fayetteville, pending discussion on which the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday afternoon.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Committee on Commissions reported as an additional Commissioner George P. Strong, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Mississippi.

The committee on the records of the Synod of North Carolina reported, recommending their approval; and the report was adopted.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Virginia reported, and their report was, on motion, placed on the docket.

A report from the Rev. Dr. McGill, delegate to the General Association of New Hampshire, was read, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix.

The order of the day was postponed, in order to take up the unfinished business of the morning.

The motion to reconsider the vote on the reference from Fayetteville Presbytery was then taken up, and lost. So the case was dismissed.

The Assembly then took up the order of the day—viz. the report on parochial education—pending the discussion on which the hour of adjournment arrived.

Dr. Musgrave presented a protest in behalf of himself and others against the decision of the Assembly admitting the Rev. Mr. Moore to a seat in this body; which was received and committed to Messrs. Jones, Dorrance, and Thomas.

And then the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday morning, May 29.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave to Messrs. Hull, Hulshizer, and D. D. Jones.

The first order of the day was taken up, and the following persons were elected members of the Board of Publication:

MINISTERS.

W. W. Phillips, D. D.,
George Potts, D. D.,
S. B. Wilson, D. D.,
W. A. Scott, D. D.,
J. Witherspoon, D. D.,
J. J. Janeway, D. D.,
J. L. Wilson, D. D.,
W. T. Hamilton, D. D.,
B. F. Spilman,
W. K. Stewart,
Andrew Todd,
Alex. Macklin,
Willis Lord.

RULING ELDERS.

James M. Ray,
R. Soutter, Jr.,
John C. Stockton,
A. Symington,
F. A. Ewing,
P. C. Venable,
Wm. Wilson,
James Weir,
J. R. Witherspoon,
P. A. Walker,
Wm. R. Hanson,
T. Craig,
Alex. Henry.

The Committee on Finance presented a report, which was adopted, and was ordered to be printed in the Appendix.

The same committee presented a report on the report of the Trustees of the General Assembly, which was adopted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix.

The committee to nominate delegates to corresponding bodies presented the following report, which was adopted, viz.:

To the General Association of Connecticut.—Rev. Daniel Baker, principal; Rev. Joseph Mahon, alternate.

To the Evangelical Consociation of Rhode Island.—Rev. James J. Helm, principal; Rev. Jacob Green, alternate.

To the General Association of Massachusetts.—Rev. Philip Lindsley, D. D., principal; Rev. B. H. Rice, D. D., alternate.

To the General Association of New Hampshire.—Rev. Robert Dunlap, principal; Rev. D. X. Junkin, alternate.

To the General Convention of Vermont.—Rev. Robert S. Finley, principal; Rev. Samuel B. Jones, alternate.

To the General Conference of Maine.—Rev. John Gray, D. D., principal; Rev. Thomas B. Bradford, alternate.

To the General Synod of the Protestant Reformed Dutch Church.—Rev. H. G. Comingo, principal; Rev. Donald McQueen, alternate.

To the General Synod of the German Reformed Church.—Rev. Wm. S. Plumer, D. D., principal; Rev. John Leyburn, alternate.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Philadelphia reported, recommending approval; and their report was adopted.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Mississippi reported, recommending their approval to page 44 of vol iii., with the following exception—viz. that it does not appear from the records that, on the final adjournment of Synod at Columbus, October 27, 1845, the session was closed with prayer. The report was adopted.

The committee on the Muhlenburg memorial presented a report, which was accepted and put on the docket.

The reply to the Synod of Canada was then taken up, and a motion was made to postpone its consideration indefinitely. The discussion was arrested

by the second order of the day—viz. the report of the committee on the report of the Board of Missions, and after debate, the Assembly adjourned. Concluded with prayer.

Friday afternoon.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The committees on the records of the Synods of New York and Ohio reported, recommending approval, and the reports were adopted.

On motion, Judicial Case No. 1 was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning, at 10 o'clock.

The unfinished business of the morning was resumed, pending which the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday morning, May 30.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave to Messrs. Riley, Davis, Littell, and Tanner.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Buffalo reported recommending their approval, and the report was adopted.

The committee on the Muhlenburg memorial made a report, which was received and put on the docket.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Albany reported, and their report was adopted, and is as follows, viz.: The committee to whom were referred the records of the Synod of Albany report that they have examined them, and recommend that they be approved, with the following exceptions: 1. The paging is all wrong after page 217. 2. The records do not seem to have been kept with sufficient care, important words being sometimes omitted. 3. The phrase on page 124, "What but this devotion to God's work—which is the Divine Spirit in us," appears to us incorrect and objectionable; inasmuch as it makes one of the fruits or evidences of the Holy Spirit being in us to be the Spirit himself. With these exceptions we recommend that the records be approved.

The committee on the report of the Board of Education presented the following report, which was amended and adopted, and is as follows, viz.:

1. *Resolved*, That the training up of young men for the ministry of reconciliation is a great work on which depend the general interests of religion and all our hopes of usefulness as a Church of Christ in the regeneration of the world.

2. *Resolved*, That the General Assembly earnestly enjoin upon the Board of Education to exercise the utmost vigilance in maintaining the high standard of ministerial qualification in regard to piety and scholarship so often insisted on by former Assemblies, and so urgently demanded by the wants of the Church and the age.

3. *Resolved*, That for the sake of guarding against an indolent, imbecile, or unacceptable ministry the Presbyteries be enjoined, in their selection of candidates, to have a special regard not only to their piety and talents, but also to their natural disposition and habits, their promise of aptness to teach, readiness to engage in self-denying service, and their general acceptability of character. And pastors are also enjoined to make themselves personally and thoroughly acquainted with the qualifications in these respects of those whom they recommend to the notice of the Presbyteries.

4. *Resolved*, That in order more systematically to remind our churches of

their responsibility in the education of the rising generation, and to invoke the blessing of God upon this work by united and special supplications, the first Sabbath of December to be set apart for the offering up of special prayer to the Lord of the harvest to send forth laborers into the harvest, and that it be recommended to every minister to preach at that time on some topic connected with the obligations of the Church to train up a pious and educated ministry.

5. *Resolved*, That the annual report of the Board of Education be committed to the Board for publication.

The committee on Overture No. 13 presented a report, which was received and put on the docket.

On motion, the order of the day—viz. Judicial Case No. 1—was postponed.

The committee on Overture No. 9, from the Synod of Alabama, respecting an additional column in the statistical reports, made a report which was received and laid on the table.

On motion, the memorial from the Presbytery of Muhlenburg was taken up, and referred to a committee consisting of all the delegates upon the floor from the Synods of Kentucky and West Tennessee, Dr. W. L. Breckinridge being chairman.

A communication from the Ladies' Temperance Union of Philadelphia was received, and referred to the Committee of Bills and Overtures.

And then the Assembly adjourned till nine o'clock, Monday morning.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday morning, June 1.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overtures Nos. 15, 16, and 17, which were disposed of as follows, viz.:

Overture No. 15, on recommending some action by Presbyteries against giving missionary aid to such churches as might, by combining their efforts with those of other weak churches in their neighborhood, support the preaching of the gospel. The committee recommended the following minute, which was adopted, viz.:

In view of the small amount of funds raised for domestic missions, and the great need of a rigid economy in the disbursement of said funds.

Resolved, That each Presbytery in our communion be recommended to discourage the sundering of feeble churches now united in the support of the gospel, and generally to combine together such feeble churches in appropriate fields of labor that the Board of Missions may be relieved from the need of a large allowance in such cases, and, where practicable, from the need of *any* allowance in aid of ministerial support.

Overture No. 16. A communication from the Ladies' Temperance Union for the city and county of Philadelphia, requesting the Assembly to recommend the Sabbath preceeding the 4th of July next to be appropriated in part to a discourse on the subject of temperance, was referred to the Committee on the Narrative on the State of Religion.

Overture No. 17. A collection of memorials and petitions on the subject of slavery, containing an expression of opinion by the General Association of Massachusetts; seven petitions from a number of ministers, elders, and private members of our Church; five memorials from Presbyteries—viz. the Presbyteries of Beaver, Hocking, Blairsville, New Lisbon, and Albany; and a resolution of the Synod of Cincinnati,—all requesting the Assembly to utter additional testimony on the subject of slavery, or at least to reaffirm or

explain its former testimony. In view of these memorials and petitions the committee recommended the adoption of the following minute, viz.:

Our Church has, from time to time, during a period of nearly sixty years, expressed its views on the subject of slavery. During all this period it has held and uttered *substantially* the same sentiments. Believing that this *uniform* testimony is true and capable of vindication from the word of God, the Assembly is, at the same time, clearly of the opinion that it has already deliberately and solemnly spoken on this subject with sufficient fullness and clearness. Therefore

Resolved, That no further action upon this subject is at present needed.

The following amendment was offered by Rev. R. M. White, and laid on the table, viz.: "Except to say that the action of the General Assembly of 1845 is not understood by this Assembly to deny or rescind the testimony that has been uttered by the General Assembly previous to that date."

The question was then taken on the report, when the Ayes and Noes were called for, and are as follows:

AYES.—Backus, Huntington, A. Scovel, Van Tuyl, Cheeseman, Twitchell, Adams, Johnston, Green, H. N. Wilson, McDonald, Krebs, Mapes, Platt, Beers, Sayres, English, Jones, McWilliam, McGee, Studdiford, Hazard, B. McDowell, Neighbour, W. Wilson, J. McDowell, Gaston, Bradford, McKinney, Symington, Mithell, M. Stewart, Blair, Shaw, Torrance, Painter, Fairchild, Jeffery, R. J. Breckinridge, Bracken, Shields, Baird, Hilands, Grier, James Moody, Cummings, Arthur, Barr, Coffey, Cherry, H. White, Weatherwax, S. R. Wilson, King, Kemper, S. Scovel, Dickson, Spilman, Stebbins, Breese, Hummer, Tryon, Woodman, Coulter, Cochran, A. H. Rodgers, Conway, W. L. Breckinridge, Ewing, Young, Forman, Henderson, Hardin, Turner, Irwin, Houston, Brown, McFarland, Dutton, W. C. Scott, Reid, Dudley, Hickman, Rand, Trimble, Gibson, Vaughan, Miller, McClanahan, Anderson, Mebane, Shaw, Freeman, Heartt, Andres, Phifer, Doak, Watt, Lindsley, Graves, Telford, Reynolds, McWhorter, Gilland, McQueen, Palmer, Calhoun, J. K. Douglass, Snowden, Talmage, Montgomery, Waddel, H. A. Smith, Kirkpatrick, Nott, Williams, Baker, J. W. Moore, Doremus—119.

NOES.—Thayer, Fillmore, Anderson, Adam, Sherwood, Blauvelt, Dorrance, Morrison, Collins, Warden, Critchlow, Dickey, Kennedy, R. M. White, McCandless, Chambers, Kerr, Osborne, J. D. Smith, Brice, S. Moody, Aikin, Fullerton, Weaver, Thomas, Meeks, J. Stewart, Glover, McKee, Charlot, Hendricks, Chesnut, Shepard—33.

So the report was adopted. Notice was given by R. M. White and others of their intention to enter protests against the above decision of the Assembly.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence reported, recommending that the letter from the General Association of Connecticut be placed on file, and that nothing more be done in regard to it. The recommendation was adopted. The committee further reported a reply to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Ireland, which was read, and put on the docket.

The Committee on Mileage presented the following report, which was adopted—viz. that there had been paid to the Treasurer, on account of the Commissioners' Fund, the sum of \$824.69; that there have been 22,977 miles traveled by the Commissioners who claim mileage in coming to the present Assembly, which at three cents five mills and three-eighths of a mill per mile will make \$812.81; leaving a balance, after deducting \$10 due by Mr. Smith, of \$1.88 in the Commissioners' Fund this day. They therefore recommend that the Trustees of the General Assembly be directed to draw an order on their Treasurer for \$812.81, and that he be directed to pay the

same to the several persons named in this report in the proportion therein stated.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Illinois reported; and, on motion, the records were approved.

And then the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday afternoon.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and corrected.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had granted leave to Messrs. Finley, Douglass, Lapsley, Thompson, Adams, and Belsches.

On motion the following resolution was offered by Rev. R. M. White, and was adopted:

Resolved, That in the judgment of this House the action of the General Assembly of 1845 was not intended to deny or rescind the testimony often uttered by the General Assemblies previous to that date.

On motion, it was then

Ordered, That persons absent this morning when the vote was taken on the report of the Committee of Bills and Overtures upon Overture No. 17 have leave now to record their vote.

Ordered further, That persons voting this morning upon said report may have leave to change their vote if they desire it.

Whereupon the following persons absent in the morning had leave to record their names in the affirmative—viz. Messrs. Rodgers, Musgrave, T. V. Moore, Banks, Guthrie, Ogden, Porter, Dow, Lyon, and Strong; and the following persons changed their votes from the negative to the affirmative—viz. Messrs. Adam, Sherwood, Blauvelt, and Dorrance.

The committee to whom was referred the memorial from the Presbytery of Louisiana relating to the power of Synods to direct the meetings of Presbyteries in connection with them presented a report, which was read and put on the docket.

And then the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday morning, June 2.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and corrected.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave to Messrs. Aikin, Arthur, H. White, Glover, Guthrie, and Henderson.

The Rev. Dr. Lindsley moved a reconsideration of the vote erecting the new Synod of Memphis, with a view to refer the subject to the Synods of West Tennessee and Mississippi. The motion was laid on the table.

The report of the committee on the report of the Board of Publication was read and put on the docket.

The committee to whom were referred the petitions from the Presbyteries of Washington and Greenbrier on the subject of a new Presbytery presented the following report, viz.:

The committee to whom were referred the petitions from the Presbyteries of Washington and Greenbrier on the subject of a new Presbytery to be erected out of parts of the Presbyteries of Washington, Greenbrier, and Redstone, would recommend to the Assembly the adoption of the following resolutions, viz.:

1. That the prayer of the petitioners be granted.
2. That the boundary of the new Presbytery be as follows: Beginning on

the Ohio River at the boundary-line between the counties of Wood and Jackson, and following the northern boundaries of Jackson and Gilmer counties and the western boundary of Braxton county till it strikes Elk River, then with said river to its source, thence with the southern and eastern boundary of Randolph county to the Maryland line, and with the Maryland line to the Pennsylvania line, and with the Pennsylvania line to the south-west corner of that State, thence in a line due west to the Ohio River, and down the Ohio River to the place of beginning.

3. That this Presbytery be called the Presbytery of Monongahela, and be connected with the Synod of Wheeling, and that it be directed to hold its first meeting on the first Tuesday of September next in Clarksburg, at 2 o'clock P. M.; and be opened with a sermon by the Rev. J. H. Bocock, and in case of his absence by the oldest minister present, who shall also preside till a Moderator be chosen.

The report was, on motion, referred to the next Assembly.

The unfinished business was then resumed—viz. the report of the committee on the report of the Board of Missions; and after debate the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday afternoon.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and corrected.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Kentucky reported, recommending approval, and the report was adopted.

The unfinished business of the morning was then resumed—viz. the report of the committee on the report of the Board of Missions; and, on motion, the Secretary of the Board was heard in explanation of the 7th resolution. The report is as follows, viz.:

The committee to whom was referred the report of the Board of (Domestic) Missions report that they have had the same under consideration, and recommend the adoption of the following resolutions, viz.:

1. *Resolved*, That the said report be approved by the General Assembly, and be returned to the Board for publication, and that the Board be requested to furnish the Stated Clerk of the Assembly with an abstract of the report for publication in the Appendix to the *Minutes*.

2. *Resolved*, That the General Assembly have heard with great pleasure of the increasing prosperity and usefulness of their Board of Domestic Missions, and do hereby express their gratitude to the great Head of the Church for his gracious smiles upon this precious cause.

3. *Resolved*, That while we rejoice at the increased interest which the churches have manifested in the work of Domestic Missions, yet in view of the magnitude of the work, the extent of the field to be occupied, and the rapid increase of the population of our country, we earnestly exhort the churches to augment their contributions to this object and to pray with increased earnestness for its enlarged success.

4. *Resolved*, That it be recommended to *all* the churches under our care to take up an annual collection in behalf of Domestic Missions; and it is hereby again enjoined upon such Synods and Presbyteries as have not acted in the premises to adopt such plan as seems best suited to secure the contributions of all the church members in their own bounds with system and certainty, and to report their action in this matter to the next General Assembly.

5. *Resolved*, That the inquiry respecting the propriety of either enlarging the *Missionary Chronicle*, or issuing a separate periodical as a channel of communication with the churches on the subject of Domestic Missions, be

referred to the Boards of Foreign and Domestic Missions, and that they be authorized to make any change which they may deem expedient.

6. *Resolved*, That it be recommended to all the churches under our care to aid, as far as practicable, in the work of church extension, and to take up for this important object a collection *distinct* from that in behalf of Domestic Missions. The General Assembly regret that so few of the churches have contributed anything toward this object during the past year; and unless much more should be done during the present year, it would be probably better to abandon the present plan and to leave this matter to the action of the Presbyteries. But it is believed that if the churches generally would contribute according to their ability to this object, the present plan would be found advantageous and useful. If each church would contribute only \$5, the aggregate would amount to at least \$10,000.

In view of the demand for greatly increased effort, which will certainly be made upon the Board during the present year, your committee feel that it is very important not only that they should be sustained by a perfect union of all our churches in this work, but also that all obstructions, so far as practicable, should be removed, and the Board, under its responsibility to the General Assembly and to the Church, should be left free to adopt such plans as in their wisdom will most effectually accomplish the great object; and believing as we do that the act of the last General Assembly, requiring the Board to have two distinct co-ordinate Executive Committees, must produce embarrassment, without adding anything to the strength or efficiency of the work, the committee submit to the Assembly the following resolution:

7. *Resolved*, That the resolution of the last General Assembly requiring the Board of Missions to appoint a second co-ordinate Executive Committee at Louisville be, and the same is, hereby rescinded, and the Board are directed to make such arrangements and adopt such measures as in their view will most effectually promote the interests of this cause in all sections of the great missionary field.

The above report was amended and adopted, with the exception of the last resolution and its preamble, on which the ayes and noes were demanded, and are as follows, viz.:

AYES.—Backus, Huntington, A. Scovel, Van Tuyl, Cheeseman, Twitchell, Adams, Mapes, Beers, Sayres, Blauvelt, English, R. K. Rodgers, S. B. Jones, McGee, Studdiford, Hazard, B. McDowell, Wm. Wilson, J. McDowell, Gaston, Bradford, Musgrave, T. V. Moore, Collins, Symington, Mitchell, M. Stewart, Brewster, Shaw, Painter, Shields, Barr, Charlot, Shepard, Ogden, Dickson, Todd, Stebbins, Breese, Tryon, McFarland, Hickman, Mebane, Phifer, Waddel, Lyon—47.

NOES.—Fillmore, Johnston, Green, H. N. Wilson, McDonald, Krebs, Adam, Sherwood, Platt, McWilliam, Dorrance, Neighbour, Morrison, Blair, Warden, Fairchild, Jeffery, Bracken, Critchlow, Dickey, Kennedy, Baird, Hilands, Banks, R. M. White, McCandless, Chambers, Kerr, J. Moody, Cummings, Osborn, J. D. Smith, Brice, S. Moody, Cherry, Fullerton, Weaver, S. R. Wilson, Thomas, Meeks, J. Stewart, King, Kemper, S. Scovel, McKee, Hendricks, Chesnut, Hummer, Coulter, Cochran, A. H. Rodgers, Woodman, Conway, W. L. Breckinridge, Ewing, Young, Forman, Hardin, Turner, Irwin, Houston, Brown, Dutton, W. C. Scott, Reid, Dudley, Rand, Trimble, Gibson, Vaughan, Miller, McClanahan, Anderson, Heartt, Andres, Doak, Watt, Lindsley, Graves, Telford, Reynolds, Porter, McWhorter, Palmer, Calhoun, Snowden, Talmage, H. A. Smith, Kirkpatrick, Nott, Williams, Strong, Doremus, Baker, J. W. Moore—95.

NON LIQUET.—Coffey, Weatherwax—2.

And then the Assembly adjourned. Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday morning, June 3.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave to Messrs. Blauvelt, Grier, Wurts, Turner, Shepard, Fairchild, Baird, Porter, Brewster, Sayres, and Cochran.

The report of the committee on the records of the Synod of Virginia was taken up, and the following minute adopted, viz.:

Resolved, That the records of the Synod of Virginia be approved, while in doing so the Assembly would be understood as expressing no opinion on the question decided by the Synod in reference to the authority of the Presbyteries of Winchester and Lexington to appoint commissioners in the cases alluded to in the records of the Synod.

The Rev. Mr. Dickey from the Committee on the Narrative of the State of Religion presented a report, which was read and on motion recommitted; and the Rev. S. B. Jones was substituted in the place of Dr. W. L. Breckinridge, chairman, excused from acting; and the Rev. Messrs. Kirkpatrick and T. V. Moore were added to the committee.

The committee appointed to answer the protest of Dr. Musgrave and others presented a report, which was adopted, and, together with the protest, ordered to be inserted in the minutes, viz.:

PROTEST.

The undersigned feel it to be their duty to protest against the decision of the General Assembly by which the Rev. James W. Moore of the Presbytery of Arkansas was admitted as a member of this House without either a commission or satisfactory evidence of his election as a Commissioner by said Presbytery.

The facts in the case are these, viz.: At a meeting of the Presbytery of Arkansas in September last the Rev. James W. Moore was *nominated* as a Commissioner, the election to take place at a stated meeting of the Presbytery to be held the following spring. At the time appointed for this meeting a quorum of the Presbytery could not be obtained. The Moderator of the Presbytery addressed a letter to the Assembly communicating the above facts, and stating that, in his opinion, the Presbytery would no doubt have confirmed the nomination of Mr. Moore and regularly appointed him as their Commissioner if they had had an opportunity of doing so. Whereupon the Assembly resolved, in opposition to our serious and earnest remonstrance, to admit him as a member of this General Assembly. Against this decision of the General Assembly we respectfully and solemnly protest, and for the following reasons, viz.:

I. Because it is, in our judgment, in violation of the Constitution of the Church, and that in two respects:

1. Because the Form of Gov., chap. xxii. sect. 2, explicitly declares that each Commissioner, before his name shall be enrolled as a member of the Assembly, shall produce from his Presbytery a commission under the hand of the Moderator and Clerk of his appointment by the Presbytery. It is admitted that the usage of the General Assembly has been to receive as members all Commissioners who furnish satisfactory evidence of their having been duly *elected* or appointed by their Presbyteries to be Commissioners, although they may not be able to produce their formal commissions. But in this case the Assembly was distinctly informed by the Moderator of the Presbytery that the Presbytery had had no opportunity of acting upon the nomination made at their last fall meeting, and of course that Mr. Moore had

never been elected or appointed by the Presbytery to be their Commissioner. It was alleged, indeed, in the course of the discussion in the Assembly, that the nomination was a virtual appointment, and that such a method of election is customary with many of the more distant Presbyteries—in other words, that such nominations when made are understood to be virtual appointments. In reply to this, however, it was shown that such nominations are not necessarily, nor always in fact, confirmed by the Presbyteries at their subsequent meeting. In truth, several of the members of this Assembly testified that their Presbyteries actually set aside the nominations which had been made last fall, and they themselves had been commissioned in preference to the previous nominees. What the Presbytery of Arkansas would have done, had they been able to meet, in regard to the nomination of the Rev. Mr. Moore, neither this Assembly nor your protestants can know. They might have confirmed the nomination or they might not. The admitted fact that they did not should have been sufficient constitutional bar to his reception as a Commissioner.

2. If even the nomination could be considered as a sufficient appointment (which in the judgment of the protestants could not be), still, his admission was in direct contravention of the Constitution, because the nomination was made at a meeting of the Presbytery held more than seven months preceding the meeting of this Assembly. In the Form of Gov., chap. xxii. sect. 1, it is said, "The Commissioners to the General Assembly shall always be appointed by the Presbytery from which they come at its last stated meeting immediately preceding the meeting of the General Assembly; provided, that there be a sufficient interval between that time and the meeting of the Assembly for their Commissioners to attend to their duty in due season; otherwise the Presbytery may make the appointment at any stated meeting, *not more than seven months* preceding the meeting of the Assembly." During the discussion the attention of the Assembly was repeatedly called to this express prohibition of the Constitution of the Church: the fact was undeniable, and acknowledged, that more than seven months had intervened between the time of the nomination and the meeting of this Assembly, and yet this explicit law of the Church was contravened and nullified.

II. The undersigned protest against the action of the Assembly in this case because we believe that it has established a precedent of exceedingly mischievous tendency. It is always dangerous to depart from the express letter and spirit of the Constitution, but to do so in relation to the qualification of membership in the supreme judicatory is pre-eminently hazardous. As the representative body of the whole Church, as the highest court of appeals, all of our churches and church members are deeply interested in preserving the purity of representation in this House. As all are to be affected by the proceedings of this body, as its judicial decisions are final, it is of the utmost importance that those only should be recognized as members of the Assembly who have been duly and regularly appointed by the Presbyteries which they represent. If individuals may be admitted as members without having been appointed and commissioned by their Presbyteries, other qualifications of membership may be dispensed with, and we may again see "Committee-men," without ordination, occupying seats in this House.

In conclusion, the protestants take pleasure in saying that their objection to the admission of the Rev. Mr. Moore was purely on the constitutional grounds which have been stated. Towards him personally the undersigned entertain the highest respect and confidence, and they regret that a sense of duty in maintaining the Constitution of the Church constrains them to offer

this formal and solemn protest against the principles upon which the General Assembly decided this case.

W. L. BRECKINRIDGE,	G. W. MUSGRAVE,
T. V. MOORE,	THOMAS B. BRADFORD,
JOHN WOODMAN,	FRANCIS McFARLAND,
THOMAS H. BARR,	D. McQUEEN,
JAMES A. LYON,	MARK HARDIN,
JOSEPH TURNER,	W. S. ANDRES,
E. G. VAUGHAN,	B. M. PALMER, JR.
W. McWHORTER.	

ANSWER TO PROTEST.

The committee appointed to answer the protest of George W. Musgrave and others against the decision of this Assembly to admit to a seat in their body the Rev. James W. Moore of the Presbytery of Arkansas, beg leave to report the following :

The grounds of protest against the action of this body are twofold ; first, its contravention of the letter of our Constitution ; and secondly, its alleged danger as a precedent. It is affirmed that the admission of Mr. Moore to a seat in this house is a twofold violation of our Form of Government, which requires that " each Commissioner, before his name shall be enrolled as a member of the Assembly, shall produce from his Presbytery a commission under the hand of the Moderator and Clerk," attesting his appointment by the Presbytery, and that said commission shall have been given " not more than seven months preceding the meeting of the Assembly." (See Form of Gov., chap. xxii. sects. 2 and 1).

That Mr. Moore did not appear before this House with such a commission as the Form of Government requires this Assembly is fully aware of ; but that some deviation from the strict letter of the constitutional requirement is allowable and allowed the protestants themselves acknowledge when they say : " It is admitted that the usage of the General Assembly has been to receive as members all Commissioners who furnish satisfactory evidence of their having been duly elected and appointed by their Presbyteries to be Commissioners, although they may not be able to produce their formal commission." Here, then, is a distinct recognition of the fact, not only that previous General Assemblies have acknowledged the validity of a claim to a seat in their bodies when that claim has been technically defective, but that such is the established " usage " of the Church. A reference to the minutes of this Assembly and of the preceding, and, we believe, of every previous Assembly, will show that claimants have been allowed a seat when they possessed no commission whatever. (See Minutes of this Assembly in the case of the Rev. Wm. A. Scott, D. D., of the Presbytery of Louisiana, and printed *Minutes of the General Assembly of 1845*, p. 378, in the cases of Messrs. Williamson, McCormick, Patterson, and Smith.)

In these and many similar instances claimants having no commissions whatever have been admitted on the mere recommendation of a Committee on Elections, when no statement of the reasons which determined the minds of such committee were furnished to the House. Now, whatever may have been the evidence of the lawful appointment of such claimants which proved satisfactory to those committees, it was not the evidence demanded by the express words of our Constitution. The very appointment of a committee on elections to examine and report on defective claims and doubtful cases, and the almost uniform custom of the General Assembly to abide by the recommendation of such committee, is itself a palpable proof that *the spirit, and*

not the mere letter, of our Form of Government is to be our guide in all such cases. Uniform usage has decided that the letter of the law may be contravened while its spirit is fully maintained. The objection of the protestants that the letter of the Constitution has been violated is, by their own showing, no valid objection whatever.

But it is maintained that Mr. Moore did not, and from the necessity of the case could not, furnish satisfactory evidence of his having been duly appointed by his Presbytery, it being made evident to this body that he was merely "nominated" as a Commissioner to the Assembly at the fall meeting of his Presbytery, with the ultimate design of formally appointing him at the meeting in the spring. The fact affirmed by the protestants is acknowledged by the Assembly. But in connection with this fact the Assembly felt bound to give weight to other considerations presented by the letter of the Moderator of the Presbytery of Arkansas and by several members on the floor of the House. The letter referred to came from one well known to many members of this body as a faithful minister in our Church. It testifies that Mr. Moore was "unanimously nominated or selected," and that this selection would without a doubt have been confirmed at the spring meeting "had not the excessive floods and high water-courses prevented the assembling of a quorum at the time and place appointed." It was also made evident by the statements of members on the floor that in the Presbyteries remote from the place of meeting of the General Assembly the usual if not the uniform practice is to select or nominate at the fall meetings such person or persons as the Presbyteries design to commission to the General Assembly at the spring meetings. Such nominations are regarded as equivalent to an election, the Presbyteries always confirming them by a formal appointment unless some special cause prevent; and without such a practice most of these bodies would fail of representation in the supreme judicatory of the Church.

Since then this Assembly was certified by the written testimony of Mr. Banks, the Moderator, and the verbal testimony of Mr. Moore, the Clerk of the Presbytery of Arkansas—both of whom were personally known to members of this body—that said Presbytery had unanimously selected and nominated, and but for an imperious necessity, which prevented the meeting of that body in April last, would have formally appointed, Mr. Moore a Commissioner to this Assembly; it deemed itself in possession of sufficient proof that Mr. Moore was *virtually*, though not *formally*, the chosen representative of the Presbytery of Arkansas.

The design of the constitutional rules prescribing the manner in which Commissioners should be elected to the General Assembly evidently is, that the Presbyteries shall be fairly represented by men of their own choice, provided these representatives possess such qualifications as are demanded by the Constitution. If an Assembly can satisfy itself that this design is attained, it may, as it always has done, admit members whose credentials are not technically constitutional, as is proved by the cases above cited and by numberless others of a similar character. In admitting Mr. Moore, then, to a seat in this House this Assembly judges that it has not deviated from the spirit and aim of our Constitution. *In form*, and perhaps in the extent to which the principle is carried out, this case may differ from those which have been cited, but as to the *principle involved* it is precisely the same—viz. that where the spirit of a constitutional rule is maintained the letter may in peculiar cases be departed from.

The same argument applies to the second constitutional objection urged by the protestants—to wit, that Mr. Moore's selection or nomination was made more than seven months prior to the meeting of the Assembly, contrary to Form of Government, chap. xxii. sec. 1.

It is evident from the testimony furnished to this Assembly that the Presbytery of Arkansas designed to adhere to the very letter of our book in this respect, but was prevented from so doing by insurmountable obstacles. The defectiveness of Mr. Moore's title to a seat in this body being the result neither of deliberate design nor of culpable neglect on the part of his Presbytery, but rather of uncontrollable hindrances, ought not, in the opinion of the Assembly, to be pressed to his exclusion from a seat nor to the deprivation of his Presbytery to a representation in this judicatory. The irregularity, which consists in an appointment eight months instead of seven prior to the meeting of the Assembly, is not more decidedly at variance with the letter of the Constitution than a commission which lacks the signature of a Moderator or of a Clerk, for our book demands both of these requisites to the validity of a commission. And if such an irregularity as this last is overlooked when the substantial validity of the commission is made manifest, surely the irregularity as to time ought not to invalidate a title when satisfactory evidence of the intention and wishes of a Presbytery is furnished to an Assembly.

A reference to the *Minutes of the General Assembly* of 1844 will show that the Rev. William S. Rogers, a Commissioner from the Presbytery of Lodiana, in Northern India, was admitted without scruple to a seat in that body, although it is evident that his appointment must have been made beyond the limits of time prescribed by the Constitution. The peculiar circumstances of the case no doubt influenced, and we believe authorized, that Assembly to act as they did in the premises; and the same we believe to hold in the present instance.

That the action of this Assembly in the present case will prove a dangerous precedent we cannot believe: certain we are that it furnishes no fairer pretext to a departure from our Constitution than the cases which every year occur, and which the protestants themselves acknowledge to be in harmony with the spirit of the Constitution. This Assembly would be far from sanctioning or in any way conniving at a manifest violation of our constitutional rules; and it can discover no fair parallel between the admission of a member on the grounds above mentioned and the introduction of a foreign and heterogeneous element into our body, such as was done by the admission of Committee-men to a place in our supreme judicatory; the former being a mere deviation from the letter of the law, the latter in contravention of the essential spirit and organic structure of our ecclesiastical system.

Upon such grounds this Assembly feels that it may vindicate the general principle on which its action in this particular case was based.

But it feels it due to itself to record the additional reasons which determined its action in this instance. The member admitted to a seat represents a body occupying the remote confines of our ecclesiastical territory—a body whose delegates must travel fifteen hundred miles to reach the usual place of meeting of the General Assembly; a body, too, whose meetings are liable to be interrupted by insurmountable difficulties, and in whom a technical irregularity, occasioned by such difficulties, may justly plead exemption from a rigorous application of the letter of the law. To exclude from a participation in the privileges of this body one who had surmounted so many and such formidable obstacles to reach our place of meeting, because of an informality in his title which does not, as this Assembly judges, violate the spirit of the Constitution, would be to subject a zealous and self-denying minister and a whole Presbytery to a serious grievance, and to discourage the zeal of those who, of all others, most need our sympathy and fostering care. While this Assembly feels admonished by the past history of the Church to maintain with strictness the order of God's house, it cannot forget that it is the

highest earthly tribunal of Him who has said, "I will have mercy, and not sacrifice." It would feel its obligation to act not merely according to law, but according to equity, and where an adherence to a mere municipal regulation would conflict with the manifest claims of equity, it would endeavor to follow out the principle embodied in the declaration of the Master, "The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath." It believes that rules were made for judicatories, and not judicatories for rules; and hence where the maintenance of a rule would inflict a manifest wrong and injury upon Christ's cause, and defeat the very end of such a rule itself, while a deviation from it would jeopard no such interests, as a court of equity it ought to do that which is right rather than that which merely *appears* right. If it be lawful and safe to violate the letter of a divine statute, like that of the Sabbath, in order to preserve the spirit of such a statute, much more is it lawful and safe to disregard a human enactment rather than perpetrate a serious wrong.

SAMUEL BEACH JONES,
JOHN DORRANCE.

Committee.

On motion, the Treasurer of the Assembly was directed to pay to the Rev. James W. Moore \$35 as his mileage.

And the Assembly then adjourned till half-past three o'clock this afternoon.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday afternoon.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The following resolution was offered, and referred to a committee consisting of Drs. Hodge, Lindsley, Musgrave, McFarland, and McDowell, to report to the next Assembly:

Resolved, That in the judgment of this Assembly it is contrary to the Constitution and uniform practice of the Presbyterian Church in the United States for any ecclesiastical judicatory to appoint a commission to determine judiciously any case whatever.

On motion, the decision in regard to the creation of the Synod of Memphis was reconsidered, and the whole subject was referred to the Synods of West Tennessee and Mississippi, and those Synods were directed to report to next General Assembly.

The committee to whom was referred the memorial of the Presbytery of Muhlenburg as to the division of the said Presbytery, and the formation of a new Synod composed of Nashville, West Tennessee, and Muhlenburg, reported, recommending that the matter of the division of that Presbytery be referred to the Synod of Kentucky to do what it may seem to them the wishes and interests of the churches concerned may require; and that that part which refers to the formation of the new Synod be referred to the Synods of Kentucky and West Tennessee and all the Presbyteries concerned, to report to the next General Assembly.

The committee on the boundary-line between the Synods of New Jersey and Philadelphia reported, recommending the reference of that subject to the consideration of those Synods, and the report was adopted.

Judicial Case No. 1 was taken up, being the complaint of Messrs. Coulter and Young against the Synod of Pittsburgh, when the Moderator read the rule reminding the members of their high character as a court of Jesus Christ, and of the solemn duty in which they were about to act. The docu-

ments in the case were then read ; when, after some progress had been made, the case was recommitted to the Judicial Committee, further to examine and arrange the papers.

The committees on the records of the Synods of Indiana, Northern Indiana, and West Tennessee reported that those records had not been put into their hands, and they were accordingly discharged. And, on motion, those Synods are directed to send up their records to the next Assembly.

The report on parochial schools was taken up and adopted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix. It was, on motion,

Resolved further, That the whole subject of the report be referred to the Board of Education, that they may from time to time report to the General Assembly any further action which may be needed for extending through our churches a system of parochial schools.

On motion,

Resolved, That in view of the present posture of our national affairs and of the great and dreadful evils of war, it be earnestly recommended to all our churches to humble themselves before Almighty God, with confession of their own sins and of the sins of the people, and to engage in fervent and continued prayer that as individuals and as a nation we may be forgiven ; that there may be a speedy, righteous, and amicable adjustment of all existing difficulties with other nations ; and that we may be permitted to enjoy without interruption the blessings of peace.

Resolved, That all pastors and all others preaching statedly be requested to bring this subject before the several churches in which they minister on the first Sabbath of July, or as soon after as it may be convenient, and to urge upon our people the duty pointed out in the foregoing resolution.

On motion, the reply to the Synod of Canada was taken up, and indefinitely postponed. It was

Ordered, That the letter of the Synod of Canada and the answer thereto be placed on file.

The Judicial Committee reported upon Case No. 1, as follows, viz. :

The Judicial Committee report that in the case of complaint of Loyal Young and John Coulter against a decision of the Synod of Pittsburgh, the records of the Presbytery from which an appeal to the Synod in the case complained of are wanting, and they deem those records essential to a full understanding of the case ; and therefore recommend that the complaint be referred to the next General Assembly, and that the Synod of Pittsburgh be directed to have all the documents duly authenticated forwarded to that Assembly, provided the complainants choose to prosecute their complaint.

The Assembly then took a recess till 8 o'clock this evening.

Wednesday evening.

The Assembly met.

The report of the committee on the report of the Board of Publication was taken up, and after amendment was adopted, and is as follows, viz. :

The committee to whom was referred the annual report of the Board of Publication, together with certain memorials touching the operations of said Board, beg leave to propose to the Assembly for its adoption the following resolutions :

1. *Resolved*, That the report be approved, and returned to the officers of the Board for publication.

2. *Resolved*, That the experience of each successive year has furnished increasing evidence of the high importance of this enterprise as a means of diffusing those religious truths which our Church holds dear, and of promoting purity of doctrine and a spirit of enlightened piety throughout our

bounds. And while, in view of the encouraging success which has thus far attended the undertaking, we would thank God for the favor he has been pleased to show it, we would call on our ministers and churches to lend a more vigorous support by their patronage and their prayers to an institution which is continually sending forth streams of healthful influence to make glad the city of our God.

3. *Resolved*, That we view with much satisfaction the pious liberality of those friends of the Board whose contributions have enabled it to make donations of libraries to a number of ministers, destitute churches, and Sabbath-schools; and we would earnestly recommend this mode of doing good to all who have it in their power.

4. *Resolved*, That it affords us peculiar pleasure to find, among the works published by the Board, so large a number specially adapted to the young and well fitted for a place in the libraries of Sabbath-schools, and that we recommend to pastors and church Sessions to take measures for introducing these publications generally into their Sabbath-schools.

5. *Resolved*, That in the spirit of recommendations made by former Assemblies we recommend to our Synods, where it can be advantageously done, to employ colporteurs for circulating the publications of the Board, and also to establish, where it is practicable, depositories, to be owned and managed by themselves.

Further, in reference to the alteration of works published by the Board, concerning which this Assembly has been memorialized, the committee report that on examination they find but one instance stated in which such a measure was adopted, and this consisted in the omission of a paragraph on the subject of slavery in one of the books republished by them.

Although the General Assembly have never given any explicit directions to guide the Board in republishing foreign works, they appear to have made it a rule to themselves never to alter historical statements, never to put sentiments into an author's lips which he did not hold.

In the case complained of the proof-reader of the Executive Committee, in revising for the press, omitted the passage, from an apprehension that if it was retained the Church might regard the Board as assuming the right to dictate on a much-litigated subject, and that, too, in a way seemingly at variance with the general sentiments of the Church. He therefore concluded that to omit the passage would be the safer course and the one least likely to give offence to any portion of the Church; for if the Board might publish sentiments on one side of this vexed question, they might also on the other. When, however, the subject of this omission was brought before the Board, the passage, by their order, was restored.

In view of these facts your committee are of opinion that no censure in the present instance is demanded. And to prevent any ground of blame for the future, they recommend that it be enjoined on the Board to exercise special caution so as to avoid anything which might be justly interpreted as a mutilation of books republished by them.

The report of the committee on the memorial of the Presbytery of Louisiana, on the power of Synods to order meetings of Presbyteries, was taken up, and referred to the next Assembly.

The report of the committee to whom was referred Overture No. 13, on the demission of the ministerial office, was read and referred to the next Assembly.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Pittsburgh presented a report recommending approval, except of those parts which refer to the case of A. L. Robinson, which has been referred to the next General Assembly, respecting which this Assembly express no opinion. The report was adopted.

The report of the committee on Overture No. 9, the memorial from the Synod of Alabama requesting an additional column for colored communicants, was taken up, pending which the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday morning, June 4.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The unfinished business of last evening was resumed; and, on motion, the prayer of the memorial of the Synod of Alabama was granted, and an additional column for colored communicants ordered to be inserted in the statistical reports of Presbyteries.

The answer to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Ireland was read, and adopted, and ordered to be signed by the Moderator and Permanent Clerk, attested by the Stated Clerk, and transmitted to said Assembly.

Mr. R. M. White offered a protest for himself and others against the action of the Assembly on the subject of slavery, which was read, and put into the hands of Messrs. Musgrave and Baekus to prepare an answer.

On motion,

Resolved, That the Trustees of the General Assembly be directed to pay to the Stated Clerk the bills for incidental expenses.

On motion,

Resolved, That the thanks of this General Assembly be tendered to the citizens of Philadelphia for their kindness and hospitality to the members of this body during the present sessions; and also to the Trustees of the Tenth Presbyterian Church for the use of their house of worship for the sessions of the Assembly.

The committee appointed to answer the protest of R. M. White and others presented a report, which was read and adopted, and, together with the protest, ordered to be entered on the minutes, viz.:

PROTEST.

We, the undersigned, respectfully protest against the action of this Assembly in the adoption of the report of the Committee of Bills and Overtures on the subject of slavery, upon the ground that *that* report declares further action on this subject to be unnecessary. But as this Assembly has since taken the action we desired by the resolution subsequently adopted, we ask that this paper be recorded as explanatory of our vote on this subject.

ROBERT M. WHITE, A. T. HENDRICKS,
JAMES A. MCGEE, JOSEPH H. CHAMBERS.
JOSIAH D. SMITH,

ANSWER TO THE PROTEST.

The committee appointed to prepare an answer to the protest of Robert M. White and others in reference to the resolution adopted by the Assembly on the subject of slavery recommend the adoption of the following minute, viz.: The Assembly did not regard the additional resolution which was adopted as taking any further action on the subject of slavery, but as explanatory of the true meaning and design of the resolution previously adopted.

The committee to whom had been recommitted the report on the Narrative of the State of Religion presented a report, which was adopted, and was ordered to be printed in the Appendix.

The roll was then called, and the following persons found to be absent without leave—viz. Messrs. Miller, Cheeseman, Shaw, Torrance, Hilands, Cummings, Barr, Coffey, Weaver, King, Houston, Barrett, Gibson, Porter, Calhoun, Dow, Strong, McGee, and A. H. Rodgers.

The minutes were then read and approved.

The Assembly having finished their business, it was

Resolved, That this General Assembly be dissolved, and that another General Assembly, chosen in like manner, be required to meet in the First Presbyterian Church in the city of Richmond, Virginia, on the third Thursday of May, 1847, at 11 o'clock A. M.

Accordingly, the Moderator dissolved the Assembly with singing, prayer, and the apostolical benediction.

ROBERT DAVIDSON, *Permanent Clerk*.

Philadelphia, June 4, 1846.

APPENDIX.

NARRATIVE OF THE STATE OF RELIGION,

ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
IN THE UNITED STATES, AND ADDRESSED TO THE CHURCHES UNDER
THEIR CARE.

DEAR BRETHREN: In presenting to you a narrative of the religious condition of our Church during the past year we desire briefly to exhibit the most interesting and prominent facts, and to address to you a few counsels and exhortations which these suggest.

It is our painful duty to announce, what to most of you is but too well known, that the last year has been one of general spiritual drought and barrenness. From not a few of our churches the converting influences of the Spirit seem to have been wholly withdrawn, and in a large majority of those churches to which members have been added the number is far smaller than in former years.

The mention of such facts will prepare you for the announcement of another of the same melancholy character—namely, that the professed people of God generally have evinced less of the vitality of godliness and more of the spirit of the world. In this respect, indeed, our Church is in the same condition with those branches of the Church which are in correspondence with us. But, so far from reconciling us to our present languishing state, this alarming fact should awaken a more anxious desire to know wherefore God has withdrawn to such a degree the quickening and renewing influence of his Spirit. It should lead us to a more solemn and searching scrutiny of our hearts and lives, and to a deeper humiliation of ourselves under the frown of an offended God, to more importunate supplications for the visitations of his grace, and to more zealous endeavors to glorify him with our bodies and spirits, which are his.

But while “unto us belongeth confusion of face, to the Lord our God belong mercies and forgivenesses, though we have rebelled against him.” “He hath not dealt with us according to our sins, nor rewarded us according to our iniquities,” but in the midst of wrath has remembered mercy. From nearly twenty of our Presbyteries we have received the grateful intelligence that special manifestations of the Spirit’s power have been enjoyed by them; and it is an additional ground for rejoicing that these revivals of God’s work have been characterized by quiet, solemnity, and order, and that they have generally occurred in connection with the use of the ordinary means of grace. The Head of the Church by thus honoring this stated and established instrumentality has taught us that we may and ought to look for his blessing when we diligently, humbly, and prayerfully employ such means, without adding to them measures of doubtful propriety and dangerous tendency.

It is also a ground of gratitude and of hope that so much attention has been directed to the religious training of our youth in our Sabbath-schools and by means of Bible-class and catechetical instruction furnished by pastors. The advantages accruing to the Church from these modes of instruction are

so manifest and abundant that we deem it superfluous to add anything to the testimony of preceding Assemblies in their favor. But in recommending and rejoicing in the use of these means we ought not to lose sight of a yet more important mode of discharging our duty to the children of the Church—to wit, their private religious instruction. To train up children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord is a duty which God has imposed primarily upon parents, and which they cannot, without sin, delegate to others. No kind nor measure of public instruction should be allowed to supersede the systematic religious training of children around the domestic altar, and by those to whom God has chiefly entrusted this work and of whom he will chiefly demand an account. This Assembly has reason to fear that a mistaken sense of duty in this matter has led many Christian parents and guardians to commit almost the whole work of catechetical and other religious training to the hands of others; and it would earnestly exhort every Christian to remember that Sunday-school and other teachers are but auxiliaries in the work of a pious education, while parents are, by the authority of God, appointed the principals in this matter; and should they prove delinquent in the discharge of their solemn trust, they cannot reasonably expect the divine blessing upon any other means which may have supplanted them.

It is gratifying to learn that the efforts to promote the cause of temperance continue to be attended with a good measure of success.

While this Assembly has ascertained with pleasure that the Sabbath is outwardly sanctified by the people composing our congregations, it has learned with regret and alarm from the reports of the Presbyteries that the desecration of this holy day continues to be a flagrant sin in various parts of our land. Frequent, earnest, and solemn as have been the exhortations of previous Assemblies to the ministers and members of our Church as to their respective duties in this matter, we cannot forbear to reiterate their testimony to the sanctity and blessedness of this institution and the unspeakable importance of maintaining it inviolate. The Presbyterian Church has ever been recognized by the world as the uncompromising advocate and champion of the perpetuity and binding obligation of this divine ordinance. Upon the officers and members of our Church, therefore, does it in an especial manner devolve to seek by every appropriate means, and especially by their own example, to promote the universal sanctification of this day of holy rest. Among the alleged grounds for the infliction of divine judgments on ancient Israel the desecration of the Sabbath is presented with peculiar prominence; and this Assembly feels persuaded that wherever laxity of practice is tolerated or countenanced by any Church, the frown of God must abide upon that Church; and wherever the desecration of this ordinance becomes general among a people, the Lord of the Sabbath may be expected to vindicate the majesty of his law by visiting them with national judgments.

It is a source of sincere rejoicing and gratitude to the Head of the Church that amidst disheartening omens of evil we can yet discern in the state of our Church some tokens of good. Among these we may mention a marked increase in the pecuniary contributions of our people to the various objects of charity claiming their support.

The reports of our Presbyteries show that the amount contributed to the Boards of the Church and to other charities has decidedly increased within the year. Now, while the mere donation of money is not in itself an evidence of love to Christ, yet is it one means by which we are to judge of the sincerity of a professed attachment to him. And, on the other hand, where such evidence is wanting there is too much reason to infer that these professions are but “as sounding brass and a tinkling cymbal.” The spirit of

Jesus Christ necessarily prompts to liberality in our benefactions; for it is the spirit of Him who, "though he was rich, yet for our sakes became poor, that we through his poverty might be made rich," and who has thus taught his disciples, by example as well as by precept, that "it is more blessed to give than to receive."

We cannot but hope that the augmentation in the amount devoted to the Lord's service by the members of our Church is indicative of a deepening conviction of duty to serve the Master, with this important talent. But, increased as is the zeal of the Church in this department of its duty, it still falls immeasurably short of what it should be and must be. We therefore renewedly and earnestly exhort the members of all our churches not merely to give, but to give liberally—to give upon principle and upon system—to the loud and multiplied calls of benevolence. We would remind you that it is, and ought to be, esteemed a privilege not less than a duty thus to consecrate your substance to Him who has made you his stewards and almoners, and who does as truly claim a right to your property as to your hearts. We would address our exhortation to the poor as well as to the rich; for to the poor equally with the rich is the promise made, "The liberal soul shall be made fat," and "He that watereth shall be watered also himself." We would exhort you to give according as God has prospered you, and we would remind you that there is no safety for an individual or for a church whose wealth is increasing except in a proportionate increase of liberality. If while wealth is flowing in upon a church or a church member there be not an ample outlet to that wealth in the form of charitable benefactions, the spirit of piety will be quenched by the spirit of worldliness. And we would remind you, brethren, that as the providence of God opens new and wider fields of usefulness to his Church, we must expect yet larger demands to be made upon our liberality, and we must promptly and cheerfully meet them.

Another cheering token in the state of our Church is the growing interest manifested in behalf of a portion of our population which in every part of our land has been too much overlooked by Christians in their efforts to promote the Redeemer's cause. We allude to the colored people of this country. In the Southern States especially means more enlarged, systematic, and efficient than have ever before been employed are now in active operation to diffuse among them the knowledge and blessings of the great salvation. Several of our ministers devote their whole time and strength to this department of labor, and, through God's blessing, with most cheering success.

Nor are such efforts confined to those who devote themselves exclusively to this work; the ministers and members of our Church generally have enlisted in this work of faith and labor of love with a zeal unprecedented in any period of our Church's history, and which the Assembly hope will still increase from year to year.

There are other subjects of interest to which, if our limits permitted, we would gladly call your attention; but for brevity's sake we must forego the pleasure, not omitting, however, to inform you that we have received from the various ecclesiastical bodies in correspondence with the General Assembly gratifying tokens of Christian and fraternal regard, accompanied in most instances with the pleasing intelligence that the cause of truth and holiness is manifestly on the advance among them.

In closing this brief view of our religious state we cannot but revert to the peculiar circumstances in which we as a people are now placed. After a long period of peace with the nations of the earth we are once more embroiled in the horrors of a foreign war. It is not our province to inquire into the immediate causes or the necessity of such a conflict; our duty is to

look beyond the secondary causes to Him who controls and directs the destiny of nations; to inquire wherefore he has thus visited our favored land with this destructive scourge; to confess before him those national sins which have provoked this national judgment; and humbly to plead that while "his judgments are abroad in the earth the nation may learn righteousness."

We exhort you, brethren, to make daily and fervent supplications to the Sovereign Ruler of nations that he would impart wisdom to our rulers, so that they may guide our affairs with discretion; that he would, if consistent with his righteous will, shorten the day of trouble and rebuke; and that he may overrule this fearful calamity to the furtherance of his kingdom in this and in other lands.

(Signed by order of the General Assembly.)

CHARLES HODGE, *Moderator*.

Philadelphia, June 4, 1846.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND.

VENERABLE AND BELOVED BRETHREN: We have received, at the commencement of our present sessions in the city of Philadelphia and commonwealth of Pennsylvania, your letter dated at Dublin on the 7th day of July, 1845, which is a duplicate of your letter of the preceding year, having prefixed to it a notice of your action touching "certain resolutions on the subject of slavery adopted by the Belfast Auxiliary of the British and Foreign Antislavery Society."

The reason you assign for sending to us a duplicate of your letter of last year is that you had not, at the date of your last letter, "been favored with an acknowledgment" of the former one. We cannot tell how this has happened, since our Assembly of last year, about the end of the month of May, sent you an answer to that letter, which ought to have reached you before the date of your present letter, and long before it was probably despatched by your Moderator and Clerks, seeing it did not reach this continent before the month of February last. A copy of that answer, which was printed in the Appendix to our *Minutes* of last year, is now sent to you, and will, we hope, reach you in due season.

Any communications which you may think proper to send to us, no matter what may be their original source, will be treated by us with the consideration which your approval of them cannot fail to entitle them to in our eyes. We are not aware of any other claim that "The British and Foreign Antislavery Society" or its auxiliary at Belfast has on the notice of this Assembly.

As it regards the general subject of human liberty, it seems to us that nothing need be said in vindication of the ardent and hereditary devotion of all the people of the United States—and amongst the rest, and perhaps somewhat specially, of the Presbyterian people of this country—to the glorious cause of true and real liberty all over the earth. If our national annals cannot be understood, we should despair of making our sentiments intelligible. We are not aware, however, that subjects of this description are the most appropriate for a correspondence between churches of the Lord

Jesus Christ, since it is their particular mission to give the blessed gospel, and not free institutions, to the human race.

As it regards the subject of negro slavery, now tolerated in about one-half of the confederated States of this Union, it is perhaps due to ourselves and to you, seeing the deep interest you manifest in the subject, and the obviously erroneous opinions you have formed both of it and of our relations to it, that we should make a somewhat more distinct statement than is contained in our former letter.

The relations of negro slavery as it exists in the States that tolerate it are twofold: chiefly, it is an institution purely civil, depending absolutely upon the will of the civil power in the States respectively in which it exists; secondly, it has various aspects and relations, purely or mainly moral, in regard to which the several States permit a greater or less degree of intervention. Touching the former aspect of the subject, this General Assembly has no sort of power, any more than we should have, if we met in Great Britain, over the institution of hereditary monarchy or aristocracy or a thousand other things which as republicans we unanimously condemn, but which you as loyal subjects cordially approve. Touching the latter aspect of the subject, and especially as regards the conduct of ministers and members of our own Church, we are of course deeply concerned; and we beg to assure you that since the foundation of our Church on this continent to the present moment it has always recognized and tried to discharge the duties which God in his providence has cast upon it in this regard. That we have done all we could, much less all we should have done, we will no more venture to assert than we suppose you would contend that you had fully discharged your duties during the two past centuries to the millions of popish idolaters who dwell around you. What we say is that we think we comprehend our duty in this respect, and that from the beginning, our Church has openly recognized it, and tried to perform it, both to the masters and to their slaves; and we add that it seems to us wholly impossible for our brethren in foreign parts to understand what we can do or should do better than we do ourselves.

As to the institution of slavery in itself considered, and founding our judgment upon the condition in which it has been exhibited, first and last, in most of the States of this Union, the Presbyterian Church in the United States has never failed to manifest a profound interest nor shrunk from bearing a clear and constant testimony. If we have the misfortune to differ from you in regard to any part of the subject, of course we regret it. But you can hardly expect us to change our ancient, deliberate, and settled testimony on a subject for a long time and very carefully examined; nor does it appear to us to be for edification that our sister churches in foreign countries should steadily and strenuously condemn us in regard to matters they cannot possibly understand as well as we do, nor possibly feel in regard to them so deep and solemn a responsibility as we do. We have, therefore, only to say that our fathers from the beginning, as we ourselves now and the Church constantly, have held and testified that slavery as it has long existed, and does still exist in many of the States of this Union, cannot scripturally be made a term of Christian or ministerial communion; and that, on the other hand, it is an institution which this Church never did, and does not now, set itself to defend. This is the substance, very briefly, of the testimony borne from generation to generation by the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America upon this point.

As we have already said, our purpose simply is to make a statement by which you may understand exactly how this Church has always viewed this subject; you will then act as your sense of duty and propriety shall dictate. We have, of course, no idea of discussing at large a question of this sort

with you, much less of defending in a brief letter to you our conduct or our faith, our Church or our country, against the calumnies of ignorant or corrupt men either in your country or ours. It is because we love and respect you that, under all the circumstances of the case, we feel constrained to say a word on the subject; and it is because we are fully convinced of the truth of our opinions, the righteousness of our testimony, and the propriety of our conduct that we have felt it needful to do nothing more than state distinctly our true position. For the rest, one thing is beyond all controversy; notwithstanding our unworthiness, our God has smiled on us and our fathers ever since our standard was lifted up in this vast continent, and has so blessed and enlarged us that in about a century and a half he has brought us from a condition so feeble that we had but a single minister of the gospel, to be perhaps the most numerous body of orthodox Presbyterians on the face of the earth; and by his grace we believe that we are more united this day than we ever were before, and as fully resolved, by the help of God, to go forward in the glorious work to which, as we trust, we have been divinely called.

Praying God to bless you, venerable and beloved, we remain, in the bonds of Christ's gospel, faithfully and cordially your brethren and friends.

(Signed by order of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.)

CHARLES HODGE, *Moderator.*

ROBERT DAVIDSON, *Permanent Clerk.*

Attest: WILLIS LORD, *Stated Clerk.*

Philadelphia, June, 1846.

SYNODS AND PRESBYTERIES.

THE General Assembly has under its care *twenty-two* Synods, comprising *one hundred and fifteen* Presbyteries, viz.:

1. The Synod of Albany, containing the *four* Presbyteries of Londonderry, Troy, Albany, and Columbia.

2. The Synod of Buffalo, containing the *four* Presbyteries of Steuben, Wyoming, Ogdensburg, and Buffalo City.

3. The Synod of New York, containing the *six* Presbyteries of Hudson, North River, Bedford, Long Island, New York, and New York 2d.

4. The Synod of New Jersey, containing the *seven* Presbyteries of Elizabethtown, New Brunswick, West Jersey, Newton, Raritan, Susquehanna, and Luzerne.

5. The Synod of Philadelphia, containing the *eight* Presbyteries of Philadelphia, Philadelphia 2d, New Castle, Donegal, Baltimore, Carlisle, Huntingdon, and Northumberland.

6. The Synod of Pittsburgh, containing the *seven* Presbyteries of Blairsville, Redstone, Ohio, Allegheny, Beaver, Erie, and Clarion.

7. The Synod of Wheeling, containing the *four* Presbyteries of Washington, Steubenville, St. Clairsville, and New Lisbon.

8. The Synod of Ohio, containing the *seven* Presbyteries of Columbus, Marion, Zanesville, Richland, Wooster, Coshocton, and Hocking.

9. The Synod of Cincinnati, containing the *six* Presbyteries of Chillicothe, Miami, Cincinnati, Oxford, Sidney, and Maumee.

10. The Synod of Indiana, containing the *five* Presbyteries of Salem, Vincennes, Madison, Crawfordsville, and Indianapolis.

11. The Synod of Northern Indiana, containing the *four* Presbyteries of Logansport, Michigan, Lake, and Fort Wayne.
12. The Synod of Illinois, containing the *six* Presbyteries of Kaskaskia, Sangamon, Schuyler, Palestine, Peoria, and Iowa.
13. The Synod of Missouri, containing the *five* Presbyteries of Missouri, St. Louis, Palmyra, Potosi, and Upper Missouri.
14. The Synod of Kentucky, containing the *six* Presbyteries of Louisville, Muhlenburg, Transylvania, West Lexington, Ebenezer, and Bowling Green.
15. The Synod of Virginia, containing the *six* Presbyteries of Greenbrier, Lexington, Winchester, West Hanover, East Hanover, and Montgomery.
16. The Synod of North Carolina, containing the *three* Presbyteries of Orange, Fayetteville, and Concord.
17. The Synod of West Tennessee, containing the *four* Presbyteries of Holston, West Tennessee, Nashville, and Western District.
18. The Synod of South Carolina, containing the *four* Presbyteries of South Carolina, Bethel, Harmony, and Charleston.
19. The Synod of Georgia, containing the *five* Presbyteries of Georgia, Hopewell, Flint River, Florida, and Cherokee.
20. The Synod of Alabama, containing the *three* Presbyteries of South Alabama, Tuscaloosa, and East Alabama.
21. The Synod of Mississippi, containing the *eight* Presbyteries of Mississippi, Louisiana, Clinton, Tombeckbee, Chickasaw, Arkansas, Indian, and Brazos.
22. The Synod of Northern India, containing the *three* Presbyteries of Lodiana, Furrukabad, and Allahabad.

PRESBYTERIES.	Ministers.	Licentiates.	Candidates.	Churches.	Com. added on Examination.	Com. added on Certificate.	Total of Communicants.	Adults Baptized.	Infants Baptized.	Funds raised for Dom. Missions.	Funds raised for For. Missions.	Funds raised for Education.	Funds raised for Board of Publication.	Funds raised for Theological Seminaries.	Commissioners' Fund.	Contingent Fund.	Miscellaneous Collections.	STATED CLERKS OF PRESBYTERIES.
Louisville	15	4	1	29	68	42	1596	27	62	\$708	\$623	\$282	.....	.....	\$36	.....	\$694	W. L. Breckin'r, D.D.
Mahlenburg	6	14	35	14	35	8	587	9	36	21	24	.....	.....	.....	24	.....	27	Joseph B. Hadden.
Transylvania	11	4	13	18	10	31	2127	6	55	1427	1329	2212	.....	.....	120	.....	522	John Montgomery.
West Lexington	20	5	30	88	80	80	1667	39	91	1064	513	765	.....	.....	100	\$13 00	2107	Charles A. Campbell.
Ebenezer	17	1	27	140	60	1284	50	85	240	182	139	\$16	.....	.....	60	.....	.....	R. C. Grundy.
Bowling Green	10	1	22	54	16	787	17	32	84	12	.....	.....	.....	.....	84	.....	290	William G. Rice.
Greenbrier	14	1	20	20	7	1076	3	37	48	58	4	.....	.....	.....	43	1 00	.....	Joseph Brown.
Lexington	22	3	27	46	19	3242	10	124	213	410	236	.....	.....	\$29	119	12 00	574	J. A. Van Lear.
Winchester	16	3	29	36	30	1405	6	44	438	492	320	.....	.....	4	44	6 50	1382	G. Wilson McPhail.
West Hanover	34	6	42	39	55	1986	16	46	495	274	116	18	.....	90	163	13 00	147	P. J. Sparrow.
East Hanover	17	1	12	52	43	1360	12	77	761	1195	772	.....	.....	5	87	32 00	3903	John Leyburn.
Montgomery	11	1	18	65	19	1092	12	52	126	92	30	.....	.....	.....	111	8 50	218	H. H. Paine.
Orange	27	3	7	42	62	21	2424	28	60	476	581	505	139	10	169	17 00	680	N. H. Harding.
Concord	27	2	2	55	187	36	4874	39	212	188	132	5	30	22	.....	10 25	98	John S. McCutchan.
Fayetteville	24	3	1	47	58	24	2077	19	106	174	319	5	3	.....	62	50	415	Colin Melver.
Holston	9	1	15	7	7	981	2	22	151	166	.....	.....	.....	.....	23	1 50	132	Samuel Y. Wylie.
West Tennessee	8	1	18	40	9	827	8	60	356	417	122	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	179	James N. Arnell.
Nashville	8	3	14	31	18	1013	9	26	250	268	228	.....	.....	220	112	5 00	466	John T. Edgar, D. D.
Western District	15	4	4	31	102	94	1237	46	55	531	279	265	.....	.....	124	8 50	970	H. M. Kerr.
South Carolina	24	2	40	168	13	2483	67	137	930	88	197	.....	.....	.....	238	.....	.....	Samuel B. Lewers.
Bethel	13	1	21	132	28	2007	54	143	30	137	170	.....	.....	.....	99	4 50	.....	John Douglas.
Harmony	21	1	3	25	96	10	2401	42	67	302	494	294	107	.....	219	.....	.....	William Brearly.
Charleston	14	1	8	76	10	705	24	43	378	812	626	.....	.....	.....	12	100	545	B. M. Palmer Jr.
Hopewell	17	4	3	31	49	54	1176	10	26	160	491	7	.....	.....	87	.....	.....	Francis Bowman.
Georgia	13	3	1	9	10	10	283	6	16	266	176	150	.....	2600	14	.....	250	Charles C. Jones.
Flint River	11	4	3	37	139	39	1068	32	72	127	95	30	.....	.....	127	.....	12	James C. Patterson.
Florida	8	1	9	25	11	323	3	21	96	170	26	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	30	Joshua Phelps.
Cherokee	8	1	15	54	22	636	20	23	127	60	.....	.....	.....	.....	48	.....	37	J. M. M. Caldwell.
South Alabama	12	2	1	23	123	70	1496	54	109	177	543	113	65	.....	139	7 00	6797	J. B. King.
Tuscaloosa	19	1	3	26	56	50	1367	12	61	430	459	130	.....	.....	206	8 60	577	James N. Carothers.
East Alabama	16	1	4	33	94	64	922	24	68	122	175	80	.....	.....	146	.....	8016	R. C. Smith.
Mississippi	14	1	4	16	179	26	1061	67	93	915	915	183	.....	352	124	40 25	2193	J. Chamberlain, D. D.
Louisiana	16	2	14	57	83	1100	8	84	832	632	313	.....	.....	5	15	2 60	5011	Benjamin Chase.

[illegible]

GENERAL VIEW.

DURING the ecclesiastical year closing May, 1846, the Synods of South Carolina and Georgia have been respectively organized, according to the resolution of the last Assembly. Official information has also been received of the organization of the Synod of Northern India. The Synod of Mississippi has merged the Presbytery of New Orleans into that of Louisiana, and received under its care the Presbytery of Brazos in Texas. The Synod of Kentucky has organized the new Presbytery of Bowling Green. There are now in connection with the General Assembly—

Synods	22
Presbyteries	115
Candidates for the ministry	339
Licentiates	218
Ministers	1647
Churches	2297

During the year there have been—

Licensures	72
Ordinations	78
Installations	87
Pastoral relations dissolved	52
Churches organized and received from other bodies	45
Ministers received from other denominations	14
“ gone to “ “	4
Members added to the Church on examination	7792
“ “ “ “ certificate	5733
Adults baptized	2036
Children baptized	9677
Whole number of communicants, as reported	174,714

Amount contributed for religious purposes, \$254,856.70.

The following ministers are reported as having died during the year :

NAMES.	PRESBYTERIES.
Benjamin Holmes	Buffalo City.
Amzi Francis	Long Island.
Albert B. Dod, D. D.	New Brunswick.
Robert B. Belville	New Castle.
Samuel Martin, D. D.	Donegal.
David Denny	Carlisle.
James Graham	Blairsville.
Elisha McCurdy	Ohio.
John Glen	Clarion.
Moses Allen	St. Clairsville.
George Wells	Columbus.
O. H. Hill	Michigan.
Wm. A. Smith	Kaskaskia.
C. W. McPheeters	Palmyra.
John Paisley	Orange.
Edward Pharr	Hopewell.
Thomas S. Witherspoon	South Alabama.
Thomas Newton	“ “
Francis H. Porter	Tuscaloosa.
Total—19.	

Last year the deaths among the clergy were twenty-three.

The above aggregates, except the first two, present only an approximation to the actual truth. This results from the incompleteness of many of the Presbyterian reports. Two Presbyteries have not reported at all the past year. The same is true of a large number of churches. How much this neglect affects the general result is illustrated by comparing the presbyterial reports of money contributed to the Boards with the amount received by the Boards. Thus the amount received by the Board of Foreign Missions alone from the churches exceeds the amount reported to the Assembly for that object by about twenty thousand dollars. So with several other items of the reports.

WILLIS LORD,

Stated Clerk of the General Assembly.

CHARTER.

An Act for Incorporating the Trustees of the Ministers and Elders constituting the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

WHEREAS, the Ministers and Elders forming the GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, consisting of citizens of the State of Pennsylvania and of others of the United States of America aforesaid, have by their petition represented that by donations, bequests, or otherwise of charitably-disposed persons they are possessed of moneys for benevolent and pious purposes, and the said ministers and elders have reason to expect further contributions for similar uses, but from the scattered situation of the said ministers and elders and other causes the said ministers and elders find it extremely difficult to manage the said funds in the way best calculated to answer the intention of the donors; therefore,

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That John Rogers, Alexander McWhorter, Samuel Stanhope Smith, Ashbel Green, William M. Tenant, Patrick Allison, Nathan Irvin, Joseph Clark, Andrew Hunter, Jared Ingersoll, Robert Ralston, Jonathan R. Smith, Andrew Bayard, Elias Boudinot, John Nelson, Ebenezer Hazard, David Jackson, and Robert Smith, merchant, and their successors duly elected and appointed in manner as is hereinafter directed, be, and they are hereby made, declared, and constituted, a corporation and body politic and corporate, in law and in fact, to have continuance for ever, by the name, style and title of "Trustees of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America;" and by the name, style and title aforesaid shall for ever hereafter be persons able and capable in law as well to take, receive, and hold all and all manner of lands, tenements, rents, annuities, franchises, and other hereditaments which at any time or times heretofore have been granted, bargained, sold, enfeoffed, released, devised, or otherwise conveyed to the said ministers and elders of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of the United States, or any other person or persons to their use or in trust for them; and the same lands, tenements, rents, annuities, liberties, franchises, and other hereditaments are hereby vested and established in the said corporation and their successors*

for ever, according to the original use and intent for which such devises, gifts, and grants were respectively made; and the said corporation and their successors are hereby declared to be seized and possessed of such estates therein as in and by the respective grants, bargains, sales, enfeoffments, releases, devises, and other conveyances thereof is or are declared, limited, and expressed; also, that the said corporation and their successors at all times hereafter shall be capable and able to purchase, have, receive, take, hold, and enjoy, in fee simple or of lesser estate or estates, any lands, tenements, rents, annuities, franchises, and other hereditaments by the gift, grant, bargain, sale, alienation, enfeoffment, release, confirmation, or devise of any person or persons, bodies politic and corporate, capable and able to make the same. And further, that the said ministers and elders, under the corporate name aforesaid, and their successors, may take and receive any sum or sums of money and any portion of goods and chattels that have been given to the said ministers and elders, or that hereafter shall be given, sold, leased, or bequeathed to the said corporation, by any person or persons, bodies politic or corporate, that is able or capable to make a gift, sale, bequest, or other disposal of the same; such money, goods, or chattels to be laid out and disposed of for the use and benefit of the aforesaid corporation agreeably to the intention of the donors and according to the objects, articles, and conditions of this act.

SECTION 2. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That no misnomer of the said corporation and their successors shall defeat or annul any gift, grant, devise, or bequest to or from the said corporation; *provided*, the intent of the party or parties shall sufficiently appear upon the face of the gift, will, grant, or other writing whereby any estate or interest was intended to pass to or from the said corporation.

SECTION 3. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That the said corporation and their successors shall have full power and authority to make, have, and use one common seal, with such device and inscription as they shall think fit and proper; and the same to break, alter, and renew at their pleasure.

SECTION 4. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That the said corporation and their successors, by the name, style, and title aforesaid, shall be able and capable in law to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, in any court or before any judge or justice in all and all manner of suits, complaints, pleas, matters, and demands of whatsoever nature, kind, and form they may be, and all and every matter and thing to do in as full and effectual a manner as any other person, bodies politic or corporate, within this commonwealth may or can do.

SECTION 5. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That the said corporation and their successors shall be, and hereby are, authorized and empowered to make, ordain, and establish by-laws and ordinances, and do everything incident and needful for the support and due government of the said corporation and managing the funds and revenues thereof; *provided*, the said by-laws be not repugnant to the Constitution and laws of the United States, to the Constitution and laws of this commonwealth, or to this act.

SECTION 6. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That the said corporation shall not, at any time, consist of more than eighteen persons, whereof the said General Assembly may, at their discretion, as often as they shall hold their sessions in the State of Pennsylvania, change one-third in such manner as to the said General Assembly shall seem proper; and the corporation aforesaid shall have power and authority to manage and dispose of all moneys, goods, chattels, lands, tenements, and hereditaments and other estate whatsoever committed to their care and trust by the said General As-

sembly; but in cases where special instructions for the management and disposal thereof shall be given by the said General Assembly in writing, under the hand of their clerk, it shall be the duty of the said corporation to act according to such instructions; *provided*, the said instructions shall not be repugnant to the Constitution and laws of the United States, or to the Constitution and laws of this commonwealth, or to the provisions and restrictions in this act contained.

SECTION 7. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That six members of this corporation, whereof the president, or in his absence the vice-president, shall be one, shall be a sufficient number to transact the business thereof, and to make by-laws, rules, and regulations; *provided*, that previous to any meeting of the board of corporation for such purposes, not appointed by adjournment, ten days' notice shall be previously given thereof in at least one of the newspapers printed in the city of Philadelphia. And the said corporation shall and may, as often as they shall see proper, and according to the rules by them to be prescribed, choose out of their number a president and vice-president, and shall have authority to appoint a treasurer and such other officers and servants as shall by them, the said corporation, be deemed necessary; to which officers the said corporation may assign such a compensation for their services and such duties to be performed by them, to continue in office for such time, and to be succeeded by others in such way and manner, as the said corporation shall direct.

SECTION 8. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That all questions before the said corporation shall be decided by a plurality of votes, whereof each member present shall have one, except the president, or vice-president when acting as president, who shall have only the casting voice and vote in case of an equality in the votes of the other members.

SECTION 9. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That the said corporation shall keep regular and fair entries of their proceedings, and a just account of their receipts and disbursements in a book or books to be provided for that purpose; and their treasurer shall once in a year exhibit to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America an exact state of the accounts of the corporation.

SECTION 10. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid*, That the said corporation may take, receive, purchase, possess, and enjoy messuages, houses, lands, tenements, rents, annuities, and other hereditaments, real and personal estate of any amount not exceeding ten thousand dollars a year value, but the said limitations not to be considered as including the annual collections and voluntary contributions made in the churches under the care of the said General Assembly.

CADWALADER EVANS, JR., .

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

ROBERT HARE,

Speaker of the Senate.

APPROVED March 28, 1799.

THOMAS MIFFLIN,

Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MAY, 1846.

THE phrase *parochial schools* must be used with a certain latitude in such a country as ours, inasmuch as, having no established Church, we can have no *parishes*, strictly so called. At the same time, the analogy which exists between Presbyterian institutions in the Old World and the New, and the identity of wants in the two, justify us in employing these familiar terms in reference to schools connected with congregations and under church authority. And the question proposed, as understood by your committee, is whether it is desirable and practicable to institute any such schools in the United States.

In the very outset it is important to be observed that all precedents derived from the Reformed churches in Europe must fail in several particulars from the absence of State connection already noted, as well as from the differences of condition among us arising from our recent settlement and thin population. And, still further, such is the diversity, even in our own States, between the North and South, between older and newer settlements, and between city and country, that your committee dare not hope to strike out a plan which shall be equally suited to every part of the Church. It is this which, to some extent, seems to absolve them from the task, at which indeed they would tremble, of suggesting *details* on a topic so new and so momentous.

It must, however, be acknowledged that a public opinion has been maturing in various parts of our communion which favors the investigation now proposed, and that a widespread and growing anxiety is manifested in regard to the religious training of the infant population.

It cannot be expected of your committee to discuss the questions of general education or of Christian catechetical instruction: these have been ably treated at length by other hands under the direction of your venerable body. It is our province to advert rather to that branch of popular education which, while it shall be carried on day by day, shall at the same time convey the knowledge of divine things.

If we are asked whether the Presbyterian population of these United States can safely rely for such scriptural training on the *common-school systems* of the several States, we must reluctantly, but without a remaining doubt, answer in the negative. The question finds a prompt solution when we consider that our State schools, in their best estate, can teach no higher morals or religion than what may be called the *average* of public morals and religion. So long as the majority do not receive the truths of grace, State schools, their creature, can never teach the gospel. In some States it is already a matter of debate whether the word of God shall be admitted; and even if this were settled to our wishes it needs scarcely be said our necessities demand something far higher than the bare reading of the Bible. In our State schools—Bible or no Bible—we have every assurance that Christ and grace and gospel liberty cannot, by authority, be so much as named; and without these there can be no Christian education.

Equally vain is it to seek our invaluable ends by aiming at a ratable proportion of public school-funds. Although such a separate maintenance has been sought by the Roman Catholics, and not without marked favor, we are too well instructed by our history to expect any such allowance for scruples and demands on the side of Presbyterianism. Nor have we learned that such a requisition has ever been attempted.

Nor can we accept the other horn of the dilemma, and by yielding to the latitudinary encroachments of the age consent to have our children reared

under a system of such compromise as prevails in some States, and according to which the child's creed shall be so dilute as to be equally palatable to the Socinian, the Jew, or the Mussulman. For we hold it as a judgment common to us with our fathers that we owe it to God and to our baptized offspring to teach the rising race nothing less than the whole counsel of God in regard to their salvation. Others will not do this work for us: nay, others, whether Christian or unchristian, are doing the very opposite with all their might.

If there is any period of life in which man receives deep impressions, it is the period of childhood. If there are any hours of childhood in which permanent opinions are communicated, the hours spent in school are such. If there is any place where it is important to inculcate the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, it is the place of daily common instruction. And with all our reverence and affection for Sabbath-schools, for which we bless the name of God, we are unwilling to let six days pass by without a word of Christ, however faithfully he may be held forth to our offspring on the seventh.

In saying this we do no more than reassert the constant judgment of the best Reformed churches. Calvin and Knox and the Melvilles were not more zealous for the preaching of the Sabbath than for the teaching of the week. In Scotland the two went forward with equal step. Wherever there was a parish church there was a parish school. The same court which ordained the pastor appointed the schoolmaster. The same office-bearers who ruled the church superintended the school. And Scotland rejoices to this day in a system which has made the daily lessons of every hamlet and mountain-glen the means of training up a generation armed at all points against religious error. On this topic, however familiar, we trust we may be allowed one or two additional statements. The British act of 1803 (53 Geo. III. cap. 54) is founded on the Scotch statute of 1696. This statute directs that *a school shall be established in every parish*. The same acts give the appointment of the teacher to the minister and certain others called *heritors*. And so stringent is the enactment that if even four months elapse without a supply, the vacancy is to be filled by the commissioners of the county or stewartry. The record of such election is carried by the schoolmaster to the Presbytery of the bounds, and upon the production of such record the court takes trial of his competency and receives the signature of the nominee to the Confession of Faith. As a necessary adjunct these acts provide for the teacher's sustenance by an annual salary, by a commodious school-house, by a dwelling-house and garden, and by certain fees fixed by the minister and his associates. By the same acts the superintendence of the schools is entrusted to the minister; the Presbytery is empowered to regulate the hours and the vacations, and to animadvert on the incumbent in all cases of just complaint. The judgment of the Presbytery is final, and is followed by civil consequences.

Such was the sedulous provision of the Scottish Church and the State authority for the continuance of Presbyterian education; and the spirit of the founders breathes in every clause as it is felt in every family of Scotland. It forms no part of our inquiry to determine how faithfully the Established Church discharged these trusts: under the worst abuses the system has not failed to make the people of North Britain a people of peculiar Christian sagacity and information. But that which, perhaps more than all other things, testifies to the value set upon these institutions is the course of action adopted by the Free Church. No sooner were the seceding brethren released from the bonds and deprived of the endowments of the State than they put their hands to the work to reconstruct a system precisely similar, except in the very points which furnish the happiest resemblance to our own condition.

For being now, like ourselves, destitute of all aid from government, they have undertaken the work on the voluntary principle; and this with a self-denial, an energy, and a success such as may well fill us with astonishment and provoke us to emulation. Few readers of British news can be ignorant of the extraordinary labors of the Rev. Mr. McDonald in collecting moneys for the schools of the Free Church.

It is not pretended that in circumstances so different we could wisely follow the example of our honored brethren in every particular. But these facts seemed to lie too near the subject entrusted to your committee to be altogether neglected in such a report. And they regret that they have not received in time more ample and minute information, for which an application has been made to Scotland on their behalf. Even these hints will cause many to ponder upon the great support which some method of the kind, conformed to our usages and condition, would afford to the cause of truth and order.

In the midst of abounding error we cannot close our eyes to the fact that the gross defections of our day are mainly among those who have not had "line upon line" in the course of their common education. Our losses have been small indeed compared with those of some sects, but the families in which Universalists, Socinians, papists, ritualists, enthusiasts, and other errorists have grown up are notoriously families in which our catechisms have been sneered at or at least neglected. The color which has been washed out of the web was never received by a deep dye into the raw material. Our children may live to see an age of conflict. The contest of our sons, it appears to some among us, is to be between *Christ* and *Antichrist*; and the forces are marshalling. The uncatechized offspring of Presbyterians are good materials for hierarchial, ritual, and at length papal, structures. And the errorists of the schools last indicated are too wise in their generation not to seize on the policy which our supineness overlooks. They know the power of schools. They found them in every part of our land. They employ them as the direct means of imbuing the youthful mind with all their most distinctive and dangerous tenets in regard to rites and orders and sacraments as opposed to Christ and his free salvation. Such being the neglect of our own body and the zeal and diligence of our opposers, we are ready to conclude that next to the ministry of the word and the instruction of the family there is nothing which, under God's blessing, promises so much for the sustentation of our covenanted truth as schools. Presbyterian schools, thorough-paced and above-board—such schools as shall, every day in the week, direct the infant mind, not only to a meagre natural religion, but to the whole round of gracious truth as it is in Christ Jesus. The principles herein asserted are not new among us, but it is high time that we should carry our principles into action.

The *ideal* of such a school as is proposed already occurs to almost every reflective mind; to realize it is, we admit, more difficult. Our desire would be for a *Christian school of respectable literary and scientific character in every congregation*. The proposal is doubtless startling, but we shall not lose by aiming high.

Even if we admit the impracticability of securing this in such a population as ours, there is a certain approximation which we may profitably hold up before our minds. Concessions must be made to the valid objections of respected brethren. Allowance must be had for such circumstances as forbid the attempt, in its completeness, in many, perhaps in most, of our congregations, such as poverty, thin population, rural dispersion, the mingling of small groups of Presbyterians among other sects. But after all this abatement the question is not to be hastily set aside: Is there not still some-

thing to be discreetly and hopefully attempted in this very direction? In cities, towns, and country districts of homogeneous population a near approach might be attained. Only grant the general principle of distinctive instruction in common schools under church care as a matter to be aimed at, and a new face will begin to be put upon the whole affair of education. Wisdom will be profitable to direct how far any given church shall go. The principle would abide firm if several churches, or even a whole Presbytery, should unite in a school. The endeavor, under every variety of application, would be to exchange our present schools, in which the doctrines of grace are often unheard of, for institutions aiming at *education for Christ*, including the nurture of ministers, ruling elders, and godly laymen. And the Church might at least authorize methods leading toward this as the proper end of every school, academy, and college.

Could we in any degree realize the maxims of education thus expressed in a working scheme of church-schools, we should see growing around us a host of young persons, every one of whom would have "from a child known the Holy Scriptures," and who, instead of being nourished on books from which every particle of evangelical truth has been carefully filtered out by school committees and temporizing State directors, would have learned the same thorough doctrinal matter which gave strength to our forefathers.

Church-schools, could such flourish among us, would immediately act upon the supply of ministers. It is vain to hope for a stronger body of leaders unless we can make our levies from a larger number of educated youth. And here a view of the subject presents itself, as connected with education for the ministry, which is too important to be overlooked, and which has long occupied the minds of those who are solicitous for a learned and able ministry. There are difficulties in the present methods of training youth for the sacred office which might be lessened, if not removed, by a system of parish-schools. So far as that system goes into effect, it will furnish primary instruction to all our young men of suitable capacity and promise. When such persons require aid from our Board of Education, they may receive it at an advanced stage of their training. In this there would be a double advantage: *First*, because the Board would therefore be absolved from the charge of elementary education, already a burden to them; and *secondly*, because they would be liable to fewer risks from incompetent beneficiaries. It appears from the statistics of that Board that *one-third* of the applicants for aid are in this very stage of juvenile training. It further appears that where failures have occurred during the last six years, *nine out of every ten* have occurred in the case of candidates taken up during this preparatory stage. And let it be remembered by those who are discouraged by such cases that at so early a period of development it is almost impossible to judge with any precision as to the real character and qualifications. And yet, however hazardous or even unwise it may be to receive such youth at this early stage, we cannot do without them; the Church needs them; the Church must educate them. If we leave them to struggle for themselves, one of these two results must inevitably ensue: either many will be lost to the Church and the ministry for want of assistance who are eminently fitted for usefulness, or else local societies will spring up all over the Church to impair the unity and strength of our present system. How much simpler and how much more congenial with our polity to have every congregation a nursery of Christian men who may be called out, if need be, to the ministry! For it is a favorable peculiarity of the method that the boy thus trained for the Church in a parish-school need not have extorted from him a premature engagement to preach the gospel—often a snare to himself and a mortification to his patrons. In these two respects, therefore, a scheme of parish-schools would rather

relieve than embarrass our Board of Education. It would, moreover, bring forward a great body of talent which under the present system cannot be developed at all. And meanwhile the applicants for the aid of the Board would be fully tried, and that aid could be limited to young men of any desired standing as to piety, capacity, and general influence.

It may seem chimerical to speak of remote results while the very inception of such a scheme is matter of doubt; but that which is ultimate in the intention is not seldom weighty as a motive to begin. We therefore venture to suggest that if parish-schools could become part of our system, some among them, in favorable sites, might be cherished in such a manner as to become academies of high rank in the literary scale. Nor is it incredible that in many of them a series of classes might ascend from the youngest, each one accessible only to the more promising for talents and piety of the class below, so as to sift out the very best of the students for the service of our beloved Church. Some method of this sort, even though only half executed, would do more to strengthen our ministry than all our existing random efforts.

Whatever may be the value of these hints touching education for the ministry, your committee feel assured that the Assembly will admit, with them, the importance of the general topic. Our children must have such a discipline as shall include the knowledge of salvation, and not by snatches, at distant intervals, but by that reiteration of daily "precept upon precept" which imbues the whole mind and is the prime ingredient of common-school tuition.

After all, however, that has been written above we are painfully impressed with the difficulty and importance of what remains—namely, the indication of ways and means for the attainment of the ends proposed. Among the great number of our brethren who agree in desiring a system of religious education which shall include the vital doctrines of our covenanted testimony, there are not a few who despair of ever securing it. It is not to be denied that the difficulties are formidable, and that there is reason to shrink from adding a new requisition upon the liberality of our people at a time when it is found hard even to sustain the ministry of the word. And we may, we trust, be pardoned if, after all the meditation bestowed on this branch of the subject, we should nevertheless betray our reluctance to submit a method of supply which shall be fitted to every portion of the Church. It is less seasonable just now to adjust this than to awaken attention to the reality and greatness of our want: and it is not too much to hope that when we shall be ready to attempt the work we shall find some means for accomplishing that which appears so necessary to our carrying on the labors of the gospel.

That parish-schools must be to a certain portion of the community *free schools* is evident at first sight. In a sermon of Dr. Chalmers upon this very subject, published many years ago, but never reprinted in America, that experienced friend of education and of the poor argues with much force that in every case a part of the expense, even though it were a very small part, should be borne by the persons receiving the immediate advantage. Even where schools are entirely free in respect to those who directly profit by them, they may, nevertheless, as is at once apparent, draw their support from the congregation or other community for whose benefit they are founded. It is the obtaining of this support in an easy and equitable manner which constitutes the difficulty of the problem now suggested, through us, by the General Assembly to the Church. Were the greatness of the benefit duly appreciated, so that our congregations should feel willing to add to the sum which sustains the pastor the additional sum which would sustain the teacher, the problem would be solved. And whenever the experiment shall be fairly made, Christian parents will find that they are amply repaid in the persons

of their offspring, and that it is in a good degree a mere diversion of a small stream of domestic outlay from the channel of schools as now existing to the better channel of Christian education. But it is too much to expect that such a revolution should be attempted at once; still less can we expect that it should be made part of a uniform Church scheme. Your committee therefore have none such to offer.

The analogy of Scottish Presbyterianism, as established by law, entirely fails us here, and we are as yet uninformed of the plans adopted by the Free Church. While we await more full instruction on this point, we may remark that even in Scotland the means of parish education have been sometimes aided by individual bounty. As a striking instance may be mentioned what is known as the "Dick Bequest, for the Benefit of the Parochial Schoolmasters and Schools in the counties of Aberdeen, Banff, and Moray," now for ten years in successful operation. This bequest consists of funds bequeathed by James Dick, Esq., of Finsbury Square, London, amounting at present to a capital sum of £118,787 11s. (more than half a million of dollars).

In our own country examples are not entirely wanting of benevolent regard for the same object. Allusion to these may answer several valuable purposes, especially that of showing that church-schools have been actually attempted in America—a fact which is perhaps new to a large number of our members. The parochial school attached to the Scotch Presbyterian church in the city of New York as the result of a munificent foundation has been long in existence, is largely attended, and is believed to be of great value. In several other churches, and more particularly in each of the new churches founded by private liberality, parish-schools are in successful progress. The limits of this report exclude detail, but, so far as the experiment has been made, both pastors and parents are disposed to regard it as promising solid advantages to the people and peculiar additions of strength to the Church.

No inquiries of your committee, however, have resulted in bringing to their knowledge any churches which by an original effort, in their congregational capacity, have founded schools under the care of the Sessions. The attempt, if made, must therefore be upon untried ground. Yet we are not deterred from reasserting the opinions respectfully suggested above, and in recommending that the General Assembly give the sanction of their voice to some principles which may encourage future experiments in this most interesting field.

In conclusion, the committee respectfully submit the following resolutions, viz.:

I. *Resolved*, That in the judgment of the General Assembly any scheme of education is incomplete which does not include instruction in the Scriptures and in those doctrines of grace which are employed by the Holy Spirit in the renewal and sanctification of the soul.

II. That in consideration of the blessings derived to us through our forefathers from the method of mingling the doctrines of our Church with the daily teachings of the school, the Assembly earnestly desire as near an approach to this method as may comport with the circumstances of our country.

III. That the Assembly regard with great approval the attempt of such churches as have undertaken schools under their proper direction, as well as the zeal which has led individual friends of the truth to aid the same cause.

IV. That the Assembly commend the whole subject of parochial education to the serious attention of the Church, counselling all concerned to regard the maintenance of gospel faith and order in the founding of new schools, the appointment of teachers, and the selection of places of education.

1847.

RICHMOND, *May 20, 1847.*

THE General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America met, agreeably to appointment, in the First Presbyterian Church in the city of Richmond, on Thursday, the twentieth of May, in the year of our Lord, 1847, at 11 o'clock A. M., and was opened with a sermon by the Rev. Charles Hodge, D. D., Moderator of the last Assembly, from 1 Cor. ix. 14: "Even so hath the Lord ordained, that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel."

After the sermon the Moderator took the chair and opened the session with prayer.

The Permanent Clerk, from the Standing Committee on Commissions, reported that the following persons,* present, have been duly appointed and are hereby enrolled as Commissioners to this General Assembly, and their commissions were laid on the table accordingly, viz.:

I. OF THE SYNOD OF ALBANY.

PRESBYTERIES.

Londonderry,
Troy,
Albany,

Columbia,

MINISTERS.

J. M. C. Bartley.
Joseph B. Eastman,
Alexander Proudfit,
Albert T. Chester.
J. J. Buck.

RULING ELDERS.

Harvey Valentine.
S. C. Jackson.

II. OF THE SYNOD OF BUFFALO.

Ogdensburg.
Steuben,
Wyoming.
Buffalo City.

E. H. Reinhart,

Anson P. Waterman.

III. OF THE SYNOD OF NEW YORK.

Hudson,
North River,
Bedford,
Long Island,
New York,

New York 2d.

James Petrie,
Samuel H. Jagger,
Joseph Nimmo,
James S. Evans.
Wm. D. Snodgrass, D. D.,
John C. Lowrie,
Hugh S. Carpenter.

James D. Bull.
Benjamin Tyler.
Thomas R. Lee (2).

James H. Reeve.
James T. Soutter.

IV. OF THE SYNOD OF NEW JERSEY.

Elizabethtown,

Wm. H. Hornblower,
Wm. B. Barton.

* A figure affixed to a name denotes the day of the member's appearance and enrollment.

PRESBYTERIES.

*New Brunswick,**West Jersey,**Newton,**Raritan,**Susquehanna,**Luzerne,*

MINISTERS.

Charles Hodge, D. D.,

Jacob J. Janeway, D. D.,

Jacob W. E. Ker.

D. X. Junkin,

John Gray, D. D.,

J. H. Sherwood,

Samuel F. Colt.

Thomas P. Hunt.

RULING ELDERS.

Francis A. Ewing, M. D.

Samuel M. Hamill (6).

P. F. Eilenberger,

Thomas McKeen.

A. W. Dunham.

V. OF THE SYNOD OF PHILADELPHIA.

*Philadelphia,**Philadelphia 2d,**New Castle,**Donegal,**Baltimore,**Carlisle,**Huntingdon,**Northumberland,*

Thomas L. Janeway,

James M. Harlow,

Samuel L. Gailey,

Stephen Boyer,

John P. Carter,

Robert T. Berry,

James C. Watson,

O. O. McLean,

John Peebles,

James S. Woods,

John P. Hudson,

James N. Dickson.

Isaac Vanarsdalen.

Samuel Ross.

E. M. Donaldson.

J. N. Brown,

James McVean (4).

Andrew L. Coyle (2),

John Boggs, M. D. (3).

John Ker,

Hugh Alexander.

Samuel Brugler.

VI. OF THE SYNOD OF PITTSBURGH.

*Blairsville,**Redstone,**Ohio,**Allegheny,**Bever,**Erie,**Clarion,*

John Caruthers,

Anderson B. Quay,

James Davis,

E. P. Swift, D. D.,

Samuel Fulton,

Loyal Young.

Isaac M. Cook,

James Coulter.

James Montgomery.

Robert Carothers,

Thomas Laughlin.

Hugh Campbell, M. D.

Luke Loomis,

Richard Donaldson.

John Carothers.

VII. OF THE SYNOD OF WHEELING.

*Washington,**St. Clairsville,**Steubenville,**New Lisbon,*

James Fleming,

James Kerr,

Wm. T. Adams,

A. O. Patterson, D. D.

James McFerrie.

John Lyle.

John S. Hunter.

VIII. OF THE SYNOD OF OHIO.

*Columbus,**Marion,**Zanesville,**Richland,**Wooster,**Coshocton,**Hocking,*

James Hoge, D. D. (3),

P. R. Vanatta.

M. M. Brown,

John Robinson.

Wm. McCandlish.

Philo M. Semple.

Moses A. Hoge.

Thomas Moodie.

Hon. Wm. Cooper.

IX. OF THE SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

*Chillicothe,**Miami,*

Thomas Woodrow,

John B. Morton,

John M. Johnston (2).

H. L. Brown.

PRESBYTERIES.

Cincinnati,
Oxford,
Sidney,
Maumee.

MINISTERS.

Says Gazlay,
Thomas Whallon,
J. L. Belville.

RULING ELDERS.

James Johnston.
N. H. Raymond.

X. OF THE SYNOD OF INDIANA.

Salem,
Vincennes,
Madison,
Crawfordsville,
Indianapolis,

Henry H. Cambern,
C. K. Thompson.
J. B. Crowe.
Wm. F. Ferguson (3).
Robert Irwin.

T. V. Thornton.

XI. OF THE SYNOD OF NORTHERN INDIANA.

Logansport,
Michigan,
Lake,
Fort Wayne.

Edward W. Wright.
P. H. Burghardt.
Robert R. Wells.

XII. OF THE SYNOD OF ILLINOIS.

Kaskaskia.
Sangamon.
Schuyler,
Pulvestine.
Peoria,
Iowa,
Rock River.
Wisconsin,

Thomas S. Vaill.

Robert Steel (2).
F. A. Pratt.

Aaron L. Lindsley.

XIII. OF THE SYNOD OF MISSOURI.

Missouri.
St. Louis,
Palmyra,
Potosi,
Upper Missouri.

Thomas Watson.
Andrew Greenlee.
Asahel Munson,

Milton L. Cayce (2).

XIV. OF THE SYNOD OF KENTUCKY.

Louisville,
Muhlenburg,
Transylvania,
West Lexington,
Ebenezer,
Bowling Green,

John D. Paxton, D. D.,
Fielding N. Ewing.
A. A. Hogue (2),
Jacob F. Price,
Ralph Harris (3).
B. D. Thomas.

Wm. Bell.

Hugh Hays.
Waller Bullock.

XV. OF THE SYNOD OF VIRGINIA.

Greenbrier,
Lexington,
Winchester,
West Hanover,

East Hanover,
Montgomery,

Enoch Thomas.

James Morrison,
W. M. Atkinson, D. D. (4)*
Patrick J. Sparrow, D. D.,
James M. Allen,
Theodoric Pryor,
Robert C. Graham,

David Gilkeson.
Wm. H. White.
F. B. Watkins,
Lilburn R. Railey.
A. G. McIlwaine.
William Wade.

* The Rev. Thomas R. Balch on the fifth day took the seat resigned by Dr. Atkinson, agreeably to a special vote of the Assembly.

XVI. OF THE SYNOD OF NORTH CAROLINA.

PRESBYTERIES.	MINISTERS.	RULING ELDERS.
<i>Orange,</i>	A. G. Hughes,	James Garland,
	Thomas Lynch,	Richard V. Watkins (2).
<i>Fayetteville,</i>	Evander McNair,	Robert W. Gibbs,
	Archibald D. Campbell,	Alex. D. McLean.
<i>Concord,</i>	W. W. Pharr,	Charles W. Harris.
	E. F. Rockwell.	

XVII. OF THE SYNOD OF WEST TENNESSEE.

<i>Holston.</i>		
<i>West Tennessee,</i>	S. A. Hodgeman.	
<i>Nashville,</i>	Jesse W. Hume,	A. W. Putnam.
<i>Western District,</i>	P. R. Bland.	
<i>Knoxville,</i>	A. A. Mathes.	

XVIII. OF THE SYNOD OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

<i>South Carolina,</i>	Thomas L. McBryde,	Abraham Walker.
<i>Bethel,</i>	Wm. P. Harrison,	Francis H. Simril.
<i>Harmony,</i>	Wm. M. Reid,	Samuel E. Wilson.
<i>Charleston,</i>	J. H. Thornwell, D. D.,	G. T. Snowden.

XIX. OF THE SYNOD OF GEORGIA.

<i>Georgia,</i>	Charles C. Jones, D. D.,	H. A. Crane (2).
<i>Hopewell,</i>	N. Hoyt, D. D.,	Henry Merrell.
<i>Flint River,</i>	Wm. M. Cunningham.	
<i>Florida.</i>		
<i>Cherokee,</i>	A. Y. Lockridge,	C. J. Hooper.

XX. OF THE SYNOD OF ALABAMA.

<i>South Alabama,</i>	Wm. M. Smythe,	D. C. Houston.
<i>Tuscaloosa,</i>	Robert H. Chapman,	John P. Kerr.
<i>East Alabama,</i>	Wm. H. Mitchell,	Norman McLeod.

XXI. OF THE SYNOD OF MISSISSIPPI.

<i>Mississippi,</i>	Jerem. Chamberlain, D. D.	
<i>Louisiana,</i>	E. R. Beadle (2),	P. A. Walker.
<i>Clinton,</i>	Archy B. Lawrence.	
<i>Tombeckbee,</i>	Angus McCallum.	
<i>Chickasaw,</i>	Samuel I. Reid.	
<i>Arkansas.</i>		
<i>Indian.</i>		
<i>Brazos,</i>	J. W. Miller.	

XXII. OF THE SYNOD OF NORTHERN INDIA,

In connection with the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

<i>Lodiana.</i>	
<i>Furrukabad,</i>	Henry R. Wilson.
<i>Allahabad.</i>	

DELEGATES FROM CORRESPONDING BODIES.

<i>General Association of</i>	}	Rev. D. L. Parmelee.
<i>Connecticut,</i>		
<i>Evangelical Consociation of Rhode Island.</i>		
<i>General Association of</i>	}	Rev. Harvey F. Leavitt.
<i>Massachusetts.</i>		
<i>General Convention of</i>		
<i>Vermont,</i>	}	Rev. Jacob Schoonmaker, D. D.
<i>General Conference of</i>		
<i>New Hampshire.</i>		
<i>General Conference of</i>	}	
<i>Maine,</i>		
<i>General Synod of the</i>		
<i>Reformed Protestant Dutch Church,</i>	}	
<i>General Synod of the</i>		
<i>German Reformed Church.</i>		

The committee further reported that Mr. William H. White, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Winchester, was present without a commission.

The Stated Clerk reported that he had received official information of the organization of the Presbytery of Rock River by the Synod of Illinois, and of the Presbytery of Knoxville by the Synod of West Tennessee; whereupon it was, on motion,

Resolved, That the said Presbyteries be enrolled accordingly, and the Commissioners therefrom be admitted to their seats.

On motion, Messrs. Barton, Patterson, Watson, and Morrison, ministers, and McIlwaine and Ewing, ruling elders, were appointed a committee of elections, to whom may be referred all defective commissions.

The Rev. James H. Thornwell, D. D., was elected Moderator, and the Rev. Patrick J. Sparrow, D. D., Temporary Clerk.

On motion, the reading of the rules was dispensed with.

On motion, *Resolved*, That this Assembly during its present sessions meet at nine o'clock A. M., and adjourn at one o'clock P. M., and meet at four P. M. and adjourn at six P. M.

And then the Assembly adjourned until four o'clock this afternoon.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday afternoon, 4 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The Committee on Commissions reported the following additional Commissioners, who were enrolled—viz. Harvey Valentine, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Troy; James Petrie, minister, from the Presbytery of Hudson; Samuel Ross, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Newcastle; John P. Hudson, minister, and Samuel Brugler, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Northumberland; A. A. Mathes, minister, from the Presbytery of Knoxville; J. J. Buck, minister, from the Presbytery of Columbia; Jacob W. E. Ker, minister, from the Presbytery of West Jersey; and the Rev. Jacob Schoonmaker, a delegate, from the General Synod of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church.

The minutes of the morning were read and approved.

The Committee on Elections reported, recommending that William H.

White, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Winchester, be admitted to a seat, satisfactory evidence having been received of his election; and their report was adopted.

Five hundred copies of the roll were ordered to be printed for the use of the members.

The reports of the delegates to the General Convention of Vermont, the General Association of Connecticut, and the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church were read, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the *Minutes*.

The docket was then read, and the several items called up.

Two volumes of *Minutes* of the General Assembly from 1789 to 1820 were presented by the Board of Publication through the hands of the Stated Clerk.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the same order be observed in hearing the reports of the different Boards as was observed last year, viz.:

The report of the Board of Foreign Missions is made the order of the day for 10 o'clock next Monday morning.

The report of the Board of Domestic Missions, for 10 o'clock next Tuesday morning.

The report of the Board of Education, for 10 o'clock next Wednesday morning.

The report of the Board of Publication, for 10 o'clock next Thursday morning.

A communication was read from the rector and vestry of St. James's Church, offering the use of said church for religious services, at the pleasure of the Assembly. On motion,

Resolved, That the Christian courtesy of the tender be acknowledged, and the matter be referred to the Committee on Devotional Exercises.

On motion, it was made the order of the day for 4 o'clock to-morrow afternoon to hand in the narratives of the state of religion.

The report of the Directors of the Western Theological Seminary was read, and referred to a committee consisting of Messrs. Swift, John Young, Caruthers, Loomis, and Donaldson.

On motion, it was made the order of the day for 10 o'clock to-morrow morning to fill vacancies in the Board of Directors of the Western Theological Seminary.

The subject of a new Presbytery to be erected out of parts of the Presbyteries of Washington, Greenbrier, and Redstone, referred to this Assembly from the last, was, on motion, committed to the Commissioners of said Presbyteries.

The judicial case referred to this Assembly from the last—viz. the complaint of Messrs. Young and Coulter against the Synod of Pittsburgh—was dismissed, information having been given that the matter had been satisfactorily adjusted.

The Assembly then proceeded to determine the place of meeting of the next General Assembly, and it was agreed that the next Assembly meet in the First Presbyterian Church of the city of Baltimore.

And then the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday morning, May 21.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the calling of the roll be in future dispensed with.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Committee on Commissions reported the following additional Commissioners—viz. Thomas R. Lee, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Bedford; Robert Steele, minister, from the Presbytery of Peoria; Thomas P. Hunt, minister, from the Presbytery of Luzerne; E. R. Beadle, minister, from the Presbytery of Louisiana; Andrew L. Coyle, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Carlisle; A. A. Hogue, minister, from the Presbytery of Transylvania; John M. Johnston, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Chilothe; Richard V. Watkins, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Orange; H. A. Crane, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Georgia.

The Committee on Elections reported that Milton L. Cayee, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Potosi, had furnished satisfactory evidence of his election as a Commissioner, and recommended his enrollment; and their report was adopted.

The Moderator announced the appointment of the following committees, viz.:

On Bills and Overtures.—Messrs. Hodge, Pryor, Patterson, Hoyt, Lawrence, Price, McCandlish, Chapman, Snowden, Johnston, Ewing, Thornton, Campbell, Houston, and Reeve.

Judicial Committee.—Messrs. J. J. Janeway, Paxton, Swift, Junkin, Morrison, Gazlay, W. M. Reid, Cooper, Bullock, Walker, Mellwaine, Robert Carothers, and John P. Ker.

On Foreign Correspondence.—Messrs. Jones, T. L. Janeway, Chamberlain, Gilkeson, and E. M. Donaldson.

On the Narrative.—Messrs. Snodgrass, Chester, McNair, Waterman, and J. N. Brown.

On Leave of Absence.—Messrs. Proudfit, Watson, Harrison, Wilson, and Loomis.

On Mileage.—Messrs. Snowden, Raymond, and Watkins.

On Finance.—Messrs. Dixon, Merrell, Ross, and Garland.

On Devotional Exercises.—Messrs. Gray, Lowrie, McBryde, Simril, and Tyler.

The following committees were appointed on Synodical records, viz.:

Albany—Messrs. Beadle, Hume, and Hays.

Buffalo—Messrs. McCallum, Pharr, and Wade.

New York—Messrs. Cunningham, R. C. Graham, and McFerren.

New Jersey—Messrs. Boyer, Whallon, and Lyle.

Philadelphia—Messrs. Moses A. Hoge, Carpenter, and Jackson.

Pittsburgh—Messrs. Cambern, Berry, and Bell.

Wheeling—Messrs. Harlow, Woodrow, and Vanarsdalen.

Ohio—Messrs. Irwin, Vaill, and Alexander.

Cincinnati—Messrs. Gailey, Berghardt, and Laughlin.

Indiana—Messrs. Vanatta, James Ker, and Brugler.

Northern Indiana—Messrs. L. Young, Bellville, and Richard Donaldson.

Illinois—Messrs. Adams, Crowe, and Dunham.

Missouri—Messrs. Robinson, Montgomery, and Hunter.

Kentucky—Messrs. Hudson, Semple, and Moodie.

Virginia—Messrs. Mitchell, S. J. Reid, and A. D. McLean.

North Carolina—Messrs. Bellville, Miller, and White.

West Tennessee—Messrs. Quay, C. K. Thompson, and Lee.

South Carolina—Messrs. Watson, Morton, and Eilenberger.

Georgia—Messrs. Allen, Rockwell, and MeLeod.

Alabama—Messrs. Lynch, Bland, and Putnam.

Mississippi—Messrs. E. Thomas, Hughes, and Hooper.

Several copies of the minutes of the General Synod of the Reformed Prot-

estant Dutch Church, presented to that body by this Assembly, were laid on the table by the Permanent Clerk.

The report of the delegate to the General Synod of the German Reformed Church was read, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the *Minutes*.

A communication from the Board of Trustees of the General Assembly, announcing the decease of the Rev. William Latta, D. D., a member of the Board, was read, and referred to a committee consisting of Messrs. Hunt, Harlow, and Ross to draft a suitable minute.

Matthew Newkirk, Esq., Treasurer of the Board of Trustees of the General Assembly, read his report, which was referred to the Committee on Finance.

A complaint of the Rev. James Smylie against the Presbytery of Louisiana and the Synod of Mississippi was received and referred to the Judicial Committee.

Certain overtures from the Presbytery of Luzerne were received and referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures.

Letters from the General Assembly of the Church of Ireland and the General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland were presented by the Stated Clerk, and referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

Several memorials on the subject of a theological seminary were received and referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures.

An appeal of the Rev. C. Nicholl from a decision of the Presbytery of Michigan was referred to the Judicial Committee.

The report of the delegate to the General Conference of Maine was read, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the *Minutes*.

The order of the day having arrived, the Assembly proceeded to elect Directors for the Western Theological Seminary. Messrs. Campbell and Priece were appointed to receive and count the ballots, when it appeared that the following persons were elected, viz.:

MINISTERS.

Charles C. Beatty, D. D.,
Samuel McFarren, D. D.,
Loyal Young,
Richard Lea,
H. Comingo,
J. Stonerod,
George Hill,

George Marshall, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of the Rev. Robert Dunlap.

RULING ELDERS.

Hannar Denny,
Malcolm Leech,
J. Schoonmaker.

The subject of the demission of the pastoral office, referred from the last Assembly, was committed to Messrs. Junkin, Pryor, Hoyt, Bullock, and Snowden to report thereon to this Assembly.

Messrs. Morrison, Gray, and Ewing were appointed a committee to nominate delegates to corresponding bodies.

The committee on a new Presbytery to be formed out of parts of Greenbrier, Washington, and Redstone reported, recommending an indefinite postponement; and their report was adopted.

The subject of the formation of a new Synod out of parts of the Presbyteries of Nashville, West Tennessee, and Muhlenburg, referred to this Assembly by the last, was called up, and, there being no report from those Presbyteries, was dismissed.

The subject of the formation of a new Synod composed of the Presbyteries of Western District, Chickasaw, Arkansas, and Indian, to be called the Synod of Memphis, referred to this Assembly by the last, was called up, and com-

mitted to Messrs. Hume, Bland, Hodgeman, Putnam, and Walker to report thereon.

The memorial of the Presbytery of Louisiana on the power of Synods to order meetings of Presbyteries, referred to this Assembly by the last, was taken up and committed to the Committee of Bills and Overtures.

The report of the Directors of the Union Theological Seminary was read, and referred to Messrs. Robert C. Graham, Pharr, and Harris.

The following resolution was offered, viz.:

Resolved, That the moneys reported by the different Presbyteries designated as the Commissioners' Fund be distributed in accordance with the original design of raising such moneys, and be apportioned to all the delegates of the Assembly who shall claim them, in proportion to the distance travelled.

A substitute was offered for this resolution, and after discussion the whole subject was indefinitely postponed.

And then the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday afternoon, 4 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 1. An overture from the Synod of New Jersey respecting the appointment of a separate Board for the establishment of parochial schools or a reference of the subject to the Board of Education. The committee recommended the following resolution, which was adopted, viz.:

Resolved, That, as it appears from page 459 of the *Minutes* of the last Assembly, this whole subject was committed to the Board of Education, no further action is at this time called for in relation to it.

Overture No. 2. Memorials from several Presbyteries in reference to the removal of the Western Theological Seminary from its present location to New Albany. The committee recommended the following resolution, which was adopted, viz.:

Resolved, That it is inexpedient for the Assembly to take any action on this subject.

Overture No. 3. Memorials from the Presbytery of St. Louis respecting the German population within their bounds, and requesting that the General Assembly would "empower the Board of Missions to open a correspondence with ministers or missionary societies in Germany of approved piety and sound doctrinal views, with reference to the practicability of obtaining suitable ministers to labor under their care amongst the German population of our country; and that they be empowered to employ any foreign minister as a missionary so soon as he shall have been regularly received as a probationer and recommended by any one of our Presbyteries." The committee recommended the following resolution, which was adopted, viz.:

Resolved, That it is not expedient for the Assembly to grant to the Board of Missions the authority prayed for in their behalf in the above memorial by the Presbytery of St. Louis.

Overture No. 4. An overture from the Presbytery of Miami, inquiring, "Where one minister is supplying two congregations, in one of which he labors as installed pastor and in the other as stated supply, has each of these congregations a right to be represented by a ruling elder at the same meeting of Presbytery?" The committee recommended the following resolution, which was adopted, viz.:

Resolved, That the question be answered in the affirmative.

Overture No. 5. An overture from the Synod of Mississippi asking,

"When two or more congregations have separately called one and the same minister to become the pastor of each church, and he accepts these calls, and is installed over these congregations as pastor, are these churches entitled to one or more elders to represent them in Presbytery?" The committee recommended the following resolution, which was adopted, viz.:

Resolved, That the question be answered in the negative.

The committee appointed to draft a minute in reference to the death of the Rev. Dr. Latta, reported the following, which was approved, viz.:

While the Assembly acknowledge the apparent loss of the Church militant in the decease of the Rev. William Latta, D. D., they would rejoice, that from the purity, loveliness, and faithfulness exhibited in his life, the prudence, humility, and firmness by which he secured the confidence of the church and congregation in which he labored so successfully as settled pastor for nearly half a century (from 1798 to 1847), and from his signally triumphant death, there is abundant reason to believe that he has been removed to a higher sphere of duty and employment in the presence of God and the Lamb.

Resolved further, That a certified copy of the above minute be sent to the family of the deceased.

Agreeably to the order of the day, the narratives on the state of religion were handed in.

A request of the Synod of Pittsburgh desiring to have a discrepancy between the written record entered on their minutes of 1843 and the printed Minutes of the same year, was referred to the Stated Clerk for adjustment.

The committee on the formation of a new Synod reported, and their report was adopted, and is as follows, viz.:

The committee on the formation of a new Synod to be composed of the Presbyteries of Western District, Chickasaw, Arkansas, and Indian, referred by the last General Assembly to the Synods of West Tennessee and Mississippi, report that, agreeably to the direction of that Assembly, the reports of the said Synods have been sent up, and that both Synods, as well as all the Presbyteries concerned, are favorable to the proposed arrangement. The committee therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolutions, viz.:

1. *Resolved*, That a new Synod be, and hereby is, erected, to be called the Synod of Memphis, and to be composed of the Presbyteries of Western District, Chickasaw, Arkansas, and Indian.

2. *Resolved*, That the Synod of Memphis hold its first meeting in Memphis, Tennessee, on the third Thursday of October, 1847, at seven o'clock P. M., and be opened with a sermon by the Rev. G. W. Coons, or, in case of his absence or inability to act, by the oldest minister present, who shall preside until a Moderator be chosen.

And then the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday morning, May 22.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Committee on Commissions reported the following additional Commissioners—viz. William F. Ferguson, minister, from the Presbytery of Crawfordsville; James Hoge, D. D., minister, from the Presbytery of Columbus; John Boggs, M. D., ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Carlisle; Ralph Harris, minister, from the Presbytery of Ebenezer.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overture No. 6, a request from the Presbyteries of Greenbrier and Western District that the Assembly would send down to the Presbyteries some overture with the design of

reducing the number of delegates to this body; and a request from the Presbytery of Zanesville that the plan of Synodical delegates should be submitted to the Presbyteries. The committee recommended the following resolution, which was adopted, viz.:

Resolved, That it is not expedient to refer to the Presbyteries any measure having for its object the alteration of the existing ratio of representation.

Overture No. 7. A memorial from the Presbytery of Baltimore, requesting the Assembly to appoint a large committee to take into consideration the propriety of devising and executing some plan for the erection of a place of worship in the city of Washington. The committee recommended the following resolution, which was adopted, viz.:

Resolved, That the prayer of this memorial be granted, and that a committee be appointed to whom the papers relating to this subject shall be referred.

Overture No. 8. Memorials from the Synods of Pittsburgh and Wheeling relating to Christian union. The committee recommended that these memorials be placed on the docket, which was done.

The committee appointed by the last Assembly to report on the present on the right of judicatories to appoint judicial commissions reported through their chairman, Dr. Hodge; and the report was made the order of the day for Monday afternoon, at 4 o'clock.

The Board of Education, appointed by the last Assembly to report from time to time on the subject of parochial schools, reported through their Corresponding Secretary, Dr. Van Rensselaer; and their report was referred to a special committee consisting of Drs. Hodge, Jones, and Janeway, and Messrs. Snowden and McIlwaine.

The committee on nominating delegates to foreign ecclesiastical bodies submitted the following nominations, which were confirmed by the Assembly, viz.:

To the General Association of Connecticut.—Rev. Robert Davidson, D. D., principal; and Rev. A. B. Lawrence, alternate.

To the Evangelical Association of Rhode Island.—Rev. Sayrs Gazlay, principal; and Rev. T. S. Vaill, alternate.

To the General Association of Massachusetts.—Rev. D. X. Junkin, principal; and Rev. Ellbridge Bradbury, alternate.

To the General Association of New Hampshire.—Rev. Robert Steel, D. D., principal; and Rev. Rufus Taylor, alternate.

To the General Convention of Vermont.—Rev. B. M. Smith, principal; and Rev. S. I. Prime, alternate.

To the General Conference of Maine.—Rev. Thomas B. Bradford, principal; and Rev. Jonathan Greenleaf, alternate.

To the General Synod of the Protestant Reformed Dutch Church.—Rev. David Elliott, principal; and Rev. John Hall, alternate.

To the General Synod of the German Reformed Church.—Rev. Thomas L. Janeway, principal; and Rev. Willis Lord, alternate.

The Judicial Committee reported Case No. 3 as in order, and the consideration of it was made the order of the day for next Tuesday afternoon, at four o'clock.

The committee on the report of the Directors of the Union Theological Seminary reported, recommending its approval, and publication in the Appendix to the *Minutes*.

The Rev. D. L. Parmelee, delegate from the General Association of Connecticut, and the Rev. Jacob Schoonmaker, D. D., delegate from the Reformed Dutch Church, made statements in regard to the state of religion within the bounds of those respective bodies.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported, recommending that a prayer-meeting be held by the Assembly on the afternoon of Wednesday next, at four o'clock, and that the following be the order of exercises, viz.:

1. A statement of the object of the meeting and invocation, by the Moderator.
2. Reading of the Scriptures and Psalmody, by the Rev. James Morrison.
3. Address, by Rev. Dr. Hoge.
4. Prayer, by the Rev. Dr. Janeway.
5. Address, by the Rev. Mr. Leavitt.
6. Psalmody, by the Rev. Jacob F. Price.
7. Prayer, by the Rev. Dr. Hoyt.
8. Psalmody and Benediction, by the Rev. Dr. Jones.

The committee further reported that, agreeably to request, they have appointed supplies for the following churches: First, Second, Fourth, and Grace Street Baptist churches; Centenary, Asbury, Trinity, and Manchester Methodist Episcopal churches; United, Pole Green, Rocketts, First and Second Presbyterian churches; and St. James Protestant Episcopal church.

They also recommended that the sermon on popery, ordered by the last Assembly, be preached in this church on Wednesday night by the Rev. Dr. Thornwell. 2. That the Rev. Thomas P. Hunt preach in this church this evening on the subject of temperance. 3. That during the next week, in order to meet the desires of the Christian community and visitors, divine worship be celebrated daily, either at 11 o'clock A. M. or 4½ P. M., alternating between the United Presbyterian and St. James Episcopal churches, which have been kindly proffered for that purpose. 4. The committee further suggested the propriety of the Assembly's celebration of the sacrament of the Lord's Supper in this church on the morning of Sabbath, the 30th instant.

All which was approved.

The Stated and Permanent Clerks, to whom was referred by the last Assembly the overture from West Hanover Presbytery respecting the statistical tables, reported as follows, viz.:

That they are unable to devise any plan which in theory can be better than that we have in our ecclesiastical organization. If church Sessions and Presbyteries will perform their duties in the matter, our statistics will be accurate and complete; if they will not, this desirable object cannot be attained by any method the committee can suggest. The committee, however, think it would be useful should the Assembly direct the Stated Clerks of Presbyteries, where churches omit to report the number of their communicants at any time, to insert in the Presbyterial statistics the number in the last reports of such churches.

The report was adopted.

The Moderator announced the following committee on Overture No. 7, the erection of a church in the city of Washington—viz. Drs. Snodgrass and Swift and Messrs. Pryor, J. N. Brown, and Dickson.

The majority of the committee on the records of Pittsburgh presented a report, which was received and laid on the table.

Overture No. 8, on Christian union, was taken up, and referred to a select committee, consisting of Drs. Hoge and Paxton and Messrs. Allen, Honston, and Ewing.

The committee appointed on the records of the Synod of Albany reported that they have examined the same, and do not find them kept as correctly and neatly as such important records should be. Important words are sometimes omitted, and frequent interlineations and erasures occur; with these exceptions the committee recommended approval to bottom of page 249.

The report was adopted.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Illinois reported that they are not present, and were discharged.

And then the Assembly adjourned till Monday morning at nine o'clock.

Concluded with praise and prayer.

Monday morning, May 24.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Committee on Commissions reported as an additional Commissioner James McVean, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of Baltimore.

The committees on the records of the Synods of New York and of New Jersey reported, recommending approval, and their reports were adopted.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Missouri reported, and their report was adopted, and is as follows, viz.:

The committee on the minutes of the Synod of Missouri report that these records are neatly kept, and with the following remarks recommend that they be approved: 1. The pages are not numbered. 2. Too many words are abbreviated. 3. An important omission of the clerk is merely sealed in upon a separate slip of paper, which will inevitably be ultimately lost.

The reports of the Directors and Trustees of the Theological Seminary at Princeton were read, and referred to a committee consisting of Messrs. Berry, Hornblower, and McVean.

The minority report of the committee on the records of the Synod of Pittsburgh was read and laid on the table.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Wheeling reported, recommending their approval; and the report was adopted.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Ohio reported as follows, viz.:

That they are not as carefully and neatly kept as they should be. Frequent interlineations and erasures occur. With these exceptions we recommend their approval. The report was adopted.

The Judicial Committee reported Case No. 2, which was received and laid on the table.

The order of the day having arrived, the report of the Board of Foreign Missions was presented, and referred to a committee consisting of Messrs. Patterson, Wilson, and Harris.

The committee on demissions reported, and on motion their report was recommitted with instructions, Dr. Hoge being added to the committee.

The reports on the records of the Synod of Pittsburgh were taken up and read. The majority report is as follows, viz.: The committee to whom the minutes of the Synod of Pittsburgh were committed would report that they have examined the same, and find them regularly and neatly kept; and would recommend their approval.

The report of the minority is as follows, viz.: The minority of the committee on the records of the Synod of Pittsburgh recommend that they be approved, with the exception of the censure passed on the Presbytery of Redstone, p. 284, for their disapproval of the action of the Session of Morgantown in nominating two persons to the office of ruling elder in this congregation; and recommend that the judgment of the Synod be reversed, and that the following resolution be adopted, to wit:

Resolved, That in the judgment of the Assembly the nomination by the Session of persons to the office of ruling elder or deacon is contrary to Form of Government chap. xiii. sect. 2, which says, "Every congregation shall elect persons to the office of ruling elder or deacon in the mode most approved

and in use in that congregation," and is inconsistent with the freedom of elections.

On motion, the report of the majority was adopted as the sense of the Assembly, and the whole ordered to be entered on the minutes.

The Judicial Committee reported as in order Case No. 3, being an appeal and complaint of the Rev. G. Nicoll against a decision of the Synod of Northern Indiana, confirming a decision of the Presbytery of Michigan deposing the said Nicoll from the office of the gospel ministry.

On motion, the complaint was dismissed on the ground of the irregularity of the complainant.

The committee on the records of the Synod of West Tennessee reported, and their report was adopted and is as follows, viz.: The committee on the records of the Synod of West Tennessee report that the document presented to your committee is not the original book of records, but purports to be a true copy from the original record under the hand of the Stated Clerk. Accompanying this report is a letter from the clerk, urging the acceptance of the transcript, on the ground of a standing rule of the Assembly authorizing the reception of a transcript when the original cannot be transmitted. Your committee are not aware of such a standing rule, and are of opinion that the document produced does not come up to the requirement of the Constitution. Your committee therefore *cannot* report as to the *manner* in which the records are kept. Your committee recommend that the Synod of West Tennessee be required to produce their original book of records for examination at the next General Assembly.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Mississippi reported, recommending their approval to page 97, with the remark that they are not as neatly kept as records of such importance should be. The report was adopted.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Philadelphia reported, recommending their approval, and their report was adopted.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Georgia reported that said records had not been placed in their hands; and they were accordingly discharged.

And then the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Monday afternoon, 4 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Committee on Commissions reported as an additional Commissioner William M. Atkinson, D. D., minister, from the Presbytery of Winchester.

On motion, The order of the day was suspended to allow the Rev. Harvey F. Leavitt, delegate from the General Convention of Vermont, to make a statement in regard to the state of religion within the bounds of that body.

The order of the day was then taken up, and the report of the committee appointed by the last Assembly on the power of ecclesiastical bodies to appoint commissions to decide finally in judicial cases was read.

Pending the discussion, the hour of adjournment arrived.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported, recommending that a sermon be preached in this church on Thursday night by the Rev. Dr. Hodge on the subject of parochial schools; and on Friday night by the Rev. C. C. Jones, D. D., of Georgia, on the subject of the religious instruction of the colored population of the Southern States. The report was adopted.

And then the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday morning, May 25.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had given leave to the Rev. P. R. Bland.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Kentucky reported, recommending approval, and their report was adopted.

The Rev. Dr. Atkinson of the Presbytery of Winchester stated to the Assembly that owing to peculiar circumstances he had taken his seat as alternate, but that, the principal having arrived, he desired to resign the seat to him.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That in view of the peculiar circumstances of the case this request be granted, and that the name of the Rev. Thomas B. Balch be inserted on the roll in the place of Dr. Atkinson;

Which was accordingly done.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overtures Nos. 10, 11, and 12; which were placed on the docket.

The Committee on Finance presented a report, which was approved, and is as follows, viz.:

The papers referred to the Committee on Finance by the General Assembly are the following, viz.: the report of the Treasurer of the Trustees, showing the amount of receipts and expenditures for the year ending May 1st, 1847; an account of the stocks, etc. owned by the Assembly, with a balance-sheet from the ledger of the Treasurer; also a paper showing the several items which make the balance of cash on hand. Upon these documents the committee respectfully report that the Treasurer's account has been regularly audited. The whole amount received by the Treasurer from May 1st, 1846, to May 1st, 1847, was \$10,380.80, making, together with \$3867.49, the balance on hand at the time of the last report, the sum of \$14,248.29. The expenditures during the year have amounted to \$13,113.58, leaving a balance in the hands of the Treasurer at the close of the fiscal year of \$1134.71. The Treasurer's books are neatly and, so far as we can judge, correctly kept; his report above referred to is herewith returned and marked (A). The paper marked (B) is a tabular statement of the investments made by the Trustees, the par value of the several stocks, the last year's estimate of the value of each investment, and their respective values on the 1st of May inst. The estimated value of the amount invested in stocks, as reported to the General Assembly of last year, was \$79,032.88. The estimated value of these stocks at this time is \$79,887.08, showing an improvement during the year of \$854.20. The several amounts of money otherwise invested upon accustomed securities are all productive of regular income, with the exception of \$5000 upon the bond of Josiah Hall, which amount is in process of collection by due course of law. The income of the General Assembly from its several investments has improved during the last year; the amount of increase is \$1422.11.

The paper marked (C) is a balance-sheet from the ledger of the Treasurer: the paper marked (D) shows the several items making the cash balance in his hands; and the paper marked (E) is a report of income during the last year as derived from the several investments. We would recommend that the aforesaid papers, marked A, B, C, D, and E, be printed in the Appendix to the *Minutes*.

Your committee is not sufficiently conversant with the state of the stock-market to make any suggestions to the General Assembly in regard to a change in any of its investments. All of which is respectfully submitted.

The report of the Trustees of the Western Theological Seminary was read, and referred to a committee consisting of Drs. Swift, Paxton, and Campbell.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Treasurer and the Stated Clerk, in connection with the Committee of Finance, be a committee to report to this House a plan to increase the contingent fund of the General Assembly.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Virginia reported, recommending approval; and their report was adopted.

The unfinished business of yesterday was then taken up, and considered, until it was arrested by the arrival of the order of the day.

The report of the Board of Missions was accordingly read by the Corresponding Secretary, the Rev. Dr. Wm. A. McDowell; and on motion was referred to a special committee, consisting of Messrs. Snodgrass, Chamberlain, Price, James Johnston, and Cayce.

On motion, it was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning at 9½ o'clock to elect members to fill vacancies in the Board of Missions; and the Assembly proceeded to receive nominations for the purpose.

On motion, the action of the Synod of Virginia, contained in their records, on Christian union was referred to the committee appointed to report on that subject.

On motion, it was made the second order of the day for to-morrow morning to elect members to fill vacancies in the Board of Foreign Missions; and the Assembly proceeded to receive nominations for the purpose.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence reported an answer to the letter from the General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland, and an answer to the letter from the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Ireland, which were read, and on motion laid on the table for the present.

The unfinished business was resumed.

On motion, the original resolution recommended by the committee on the subject of the power of ecclesiastical bodies to appoint judicial commissions, was laid on the table to take up the following, viz.:

Resolved, That the resolution declaring it to be "contrary to the Constitution and uniform practice of the Presbyterian Church in the United States for any ecclesiastical judicatory to appoint a commission to determine judicially any case whatever," referred by the last Assembly to this Assembly, be indefinitely postponed.

After some discussion, the whole subject was, on motion, indefinitely postponed.

The committee to whom was referred the report of the Board of Education made a report, which was read and put on the docket.

And then the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Tuesday afternoon, 4 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported Overtures Nos. 13, 14, and 15, which were received and put on the docket.

The order of the day was then taken up, being Judicial Case No. 1, a complaint against a decision of the Synod of North Carolina, confirming a decision of the Presbytery of Fayetteville restoring the Rev. Archibald McQueen to the functions of the gospel ministry.

The Moderator solemnly reminded the Assembly of their high character as judges of a court of Jesus Christ and the important duty in which they were about to act.

The report of the Judicial Committee in this case, in regard to the order to be observed, is as follows, viz.:

1. The complaint against the Synod of North Carolina. 2. The minutes of the Synod of North Carolina. 3. The complaint against the Presbytery of Fayetteville. 4. Extracts from the minutes of the Presbytery of Fayetteville. The committee recommend that if the General Assembly shall decide to take up the complaint, they should observe the constitutional rules laid down for conducting a regular appeal from a decision of an inferior court.

The reading of the papers was at this point arrested by the following resolution, viz.:

Whereas the General Assembly of 1845 remitted the question of the restoration of Mr. McQueen to the privileges and responsibilities of church fellowship and the gospel ministry to the discretion of the Fayetteville Presbytery; therefore,

Resolved, That the complaint of the Rev. Colin McIver against the decision of said Presbytery and the Synod of North Carolina for so doing does not lie, and is accordingly dismissed.

After some debate this resolution was laid on the table for the present, with a view of hearing the complaint.

The complaint was accordingly read, and the hour of adjournment having arrived, the Assembly adjourned till to-morrow morning.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday morning, May 26.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Committee on Elections reported as an additional Commissioner Samuel M. Hamill, ruling elder, from the Presbytery of New Brunswick, who took his seat accordingly.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had granted leave to Messrs. Cambern and Boggs.

The Judicial Committee reported as in order Case No. 4, and their report was adopted, and is as follows, viz.:

The Judicial Committee report that they have received and examined a complaint of the Rev. James Smylie from a decision of the Presbytery of Louisiana in the case of the Rev. Dr. Scott, which has been brought in a regular manner up to this General Assembly.

The complaint was first presented to the Synod of Mississippi, who recommended the complainant, if he could not conscientiously withdraw the complaint, to carry it up to the General Assembly. Mr. Smylie, feeling it to be his duty to prosecute his complaint, has brought it up to this supreme judicature of our Church.

There are three ways in which this complaint might be disposed of:

1. The Assembly might take it up, wade through the testimony, receive the new testimony that, it is understood, the complainant wishes to offer to decide the case. But against this course, besides other difficulties, it may be mentioned as a very serious one that the bare reading of the records of the Presbytery would consume four or five days.

2. Another mode might be adopted, by referring the case for reconsideration to the Presbytery of Louisiana, who might be directed to take any new testimony that should be properly offered.

3. Or the General Assembly might remand the case to the Synod of Mississippi to hear the complaint and dispose of it in a regular and constitutional manner. This, it is deemed, would be the wisest course.

But were either of these modes adopted it would require a great consumption of time, and subject the judicature that might adjudicate on the case to great inconvenience and no inconsiderable expense; and instead of resulting in practical good, might produce great excitement and consequences injurious to the peace and edification of an important section of our Church. The testimony is so voluminous that to form a correct judgment on it would require a retentive memory, patient attention, diligent comparison of its several parts, as well as a discriminating mind. It is to be regretted that the Presbytery sanctioned by their authority the publication of the speeches on both sides of the question.

The committee after carefully deliberating on the subject were unanimously of the opinion that if the case could be disposed of, consistently with the rights of Mr. Smylie, without remanding it to either of the inferior courts and without the Assembly's adjudicating on it, all the ends of justice would be gained and the peace of the Church would be promoted. They therefore invited Mr. Smylie to a friendly interview, in which they expressed their opinion and he stated his views. He did not concur with the committee in regard to the probable consequences of the case being remanded to the Synod or the Presbytery, and stated that in prosecuting his complaint he was influenced by no personal feelings against Dr. Scott, but by a desire that truth might be sustained, justice done to all concerned, and the Constitution of our Church upheld; but if the committee would, without his concurrence, assume the responsibility of recommending to the General Assembly to terminate the case without any further trial, and the Assembly should determine to adopt this as the wisest way of terminating it, he would submit, and feel that he had discharged a duty, which, while it was troublesome and painful, had put him to no inconsiderable expense.

It is due to the Rev. Mr. Smylie to say that the committee believe that in prosecuting his complaint he has been prompted by a sense of duty and a regard to the Constitution of our Church, and governed by what he deemed its purity and best interests required.

The committee recommend to the Assembly the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That in view of the representation of the case given in the above statement by the Judicial Committee, of the voluminous nature of the testimony, and of the difficulties attending the case, and believing that the interests of the Church will be best promoted by adopting the course recommended by the committee, and being willing to assume the responsibility of acting accordingly, this General Assembly do hereby terminate this unhappy case without any further judicial trial.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Northern Indiana made a report, which was received and put on the docket.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Buffalo reported that said records had not been put in their hands, and were discharged.

The committee on the report of the Board of Foreign Missions made a report, which was received and put on the docket.

On motion, the orders of the day were suspended, in order to take up the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence. The letter of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland was read, together with the answer.

On motion, the answer prepared by the committee was adopted as the answer of this Assembly, and ordered to be transmitted accordingly.

The letter of the General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland was next read, together with the answer.

On motion, the answer prepared by the committee was amended by insert-

ing the words "on our part," after the word "communications;" and the whole paper was then adopted as the answer of this Assembly, and ordered to be transmitted accordingly.

The order of the day for ten o'clock this morning—viz. the report of the Board of Education—was, on motion, made the order of the day for Friday morning at 10 o'clock.

The House then went into an election to fill vacancies in the Boards of Domestic and Foreign Missions; and Messrs. Brown and Jackson were appointed to collect and count the ballots for the former Board, and Messrs. Hughes and Putnam to collect and count the ballots for the latter.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk print no papers in the Appendix to the *Minutes* but such as he is directed to publish.

It was then moved that a special committee be appointed to report to the Assembly what papers they would recommend to be published in the Appendix to the *Minutes*.

Pending the discussion, the hour of adjournment arrived,

And then the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Wednesday afternoon, 4 o'clock.

The Assembly met and spent the time in appropriate religious services, agreeably to the recommendation of the committee of arrangements, with the exception that the Rev. Dr. Hodge presided in the place of the Moderator, who was indisposed, and that the Rev. Mr. Petrie delivered an address in the place of the Rev. Mr. Leavitt, the delegate from the General Convention of Vermont, who has taken his leave.

And then the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday morning, May 27.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The committee on the report of the Board of Directors of the Theological Seminary at Princeton reported that they had examined the same, and recommended that it be approved and printed in the Appendix to the *Minutes*. The committee further reported eleven vacancies as having occurred in the Board, and recommend that the election to fill these vacancies be made the order of the day for to-morrow morning at 9½ o'clock, and that nominations be now made. The report was adopted, and nominations were made accordingly.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had granted leave to Messrs. Soutter, Carter, Thornton, and John Ker.

A letter was read from the Rev. Elias Heiner, a delegate from the Synod of the German Reformed Church to this body, giving information of his inability to attend, and assuring the Assembly of the fraternal regard of the German Reformed Synod. Several copies of the minutes of that Synod were laid on the table for the use of the Assembly.

The committee appointed to collect and count the votes to fill vacancies in the Board of Missions reported the following persons as duly elected, viz.:

For Four Years.

MINISTERS.

Samuel Miller, D. D.,
Wm. B. Sprague, D. D.,

RULING ELDERS.

Robt. Soutter,
James Lenox,

MINISTERS.

Francis Herron, D. D.,
 Henry R. Weed, D. D.,
 Wm. M. Engles, D. D.,
 C. Van Rensselaer, D. D.,
 Nicholas Murray, D. D.,
 Matthew Brown, D. D.,
 A. O. Patterson, D. D.,
 Charles C. Beatty, D. D.,
 J. J. Bullock,
 C. C. Jones, D. D.,
 Drury Laey,
 John D. Paxton, D. D.,
 Lewis W. Green, D. D.

N. L. Rice, D. D.,
 Archibald Tudehope, } In place of Joshua L. Wilson, D. D., T. Hoge,
 George Brown, } and George Morris, deceased.

RULING ELDERS.

Wm. Nassau, Sr.,
 Robert Stuart,
 James Field,
 Henry R. Lelar,
 Jonathan Ogden,
 Edmund Hopkins,
 Hon. Nath. Ewing.

The committee on the report of the Board of Missions presented the following report, which was received, and adopted, viz. :

The committee to whom was referred the annual report of the Board of Missions report that, having duly considered the contents of said communication, they recommend to the Assembly the adoption of the following resolutions, viz. :

1. That the report be approved, and published under the direction of the Board. Also that the Board furnish the Stated Clerk of the Assembly with an abstract to be published in the Appendix to the *Minutes*.

2. That the increase during the past year in the amount of pecuniary contributions, in the number of missionaries commissioned, and in the good results of their labor in various respects has been such as the Assembly may well recognize with gratitude, and receive as an encouragement to the renewed and more vigorous prosecution of the interests of this important cause.

3. That in the judgment of this Assembly the enterprise of Domestic Missions has never stood sufficiently high in the estimation and affection of the American churches. In its relations to the wide extent of our territory, the rapid increase of our population, the efforts that are made to scatter the seeds of error in our new settlements, and the influence which our country is to exert upon the character and destiny of the world, it is the great enterprise which should enlist the sympathies and the active co-operation of the patriot, the philanthropist, and the Christian.

4. That this Assembly reiterate the testimonies of former Assemblies to the vast importance of this object, and call upon the Synods and Presbyteries to take such measures as may seem to them best calculated to secure the largest possible contributions to the funds of the Board which has this interest in charge.

5. That in view of the increasing importance and magnitude of this branch of our benevolent operations a sermon be delivered on this subject at some convenient time during the sessions of each Assembly.

6. That the Assembly have heard with pleasure of what has been done by this Board in its capacity as a church-extension committee, and express the hope that the funds placed at their disposal for this object during the coming year will be greatly increased in amount.

The committee on the report of the Board of Foreign Missions presented a report, which was received and laid on the table.

The tellers of the votes to fill vacancies in the Board of Directors of Foreign Missions reported the following persons as duly elected, viz.:

MINISTERS.

Willis Lord,
C. C. Cuyler, D. D.,
Ashbel Green, D. D.,
David Elliott, D. D.,
James Hoge, D. D.,
R. Davidson, D. D.,
W. L. Breckinridge, D. D.,
B. H. Rice, D. D.,
John M. Dickey,
S. L. Graham,
S. S. Davis, D. D.,
D. V. McLean,
Reuben Smith,
Jacob Green,
James M. McDonald.

RULING ELDERS.

James Lenox,
M. L. Bevan,
James N. Dickson,
Nathaniel Ewing,
Alexander Henry,
Robert Areher,
J. P. Engles,
William Harris, M. D.,
John Ker, M. D.,
James H. Fitzgerald,
Robert Carter,
J. J. Bryant,
John T. Gilebrist,
William Adger,
Luke Loomis.

In place of Rev. Dr. J. L. Wilson, deceased, Rev. Dr. J. W. Yeomans; in place of Mr. R. Jaffray, Mr. D. W. C. Olyphant.

The Assembly then proceeded to the order of the day, and the report of the Board of Publication was read by the Secretary of the Board, the Rev. Joseph H. Jones, D. D., and referred to the following committee: Messrs Lowrie, J. E. Kerr, and McVean. On motion,

Resolved, That the Board of Publication be authorized to avail itself of the provisions of a fund founded by the late Elias Boudinot for the purpose of providing books for congregational libraries, so far as to enable it to furnish books to feeble pastors and churches; and that such pastors or churches be permitted to select such books as they desire as may be procured through the Boudinot fund.

On motion,

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk be directed to hand over to the Board of Publication such copies of *Minutes* of General Assembly as he judges are not needed for the Assembly.

The report of the Board of Foreign Missions was taken up and read, and an amendment was offered; pending discussion on which the hour of adjournment arrived.

On motion, the Rev. Mr. Smylie was permitted to take away such papers relating to his complaint as are not necessary to be retained.

The Committee on Mileage presented the following report, which was approved, viz.:

The Committee on Mileage report that there has been paid to the Treasurer, on account of the Commissioners' Fund, the sum of \$453.31. That there have been 12,508 miles travelled by the Commissioners who claim mileage in coming to the present Assembly, which at three and five-eighths cents per mile will make \$453.31, leaving no balance. They therefore recommend that the Trustees of the General Assembly be directed to draw an order on their Treasurer for \$453.31, and that he be directed to pay the same to the several persons named in this report in the proportion therein stated.

On motion, *Resolved*, 1. That the thanks of the General Assembly be pre-

sented to Dr. Thornwell for his able and excellent discourse on the subject of the mass.

Resolved, 2. That Dr. Thornwell be respectfully requested to furnish our Board of Publication with a copy of his discourse, that it may be published by said Board.

And the Assembly then adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Thursday afternoon, 4 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The committee on the records of the Synod of Alabama reported, recommending approval, and their report was adopted.

The committee on the records of the Synod of South Carolina reported, recommending approval, and their report was adopted.

The committee to whom was referred the report of the Trustees of the Theological Seminary at Princeton, New Jersey, reported that they had examined the same, and recommended that it be printed in the Appendix to the *Minutes*.

The committee on the report of the Board of Directors of the Western Theological Seminary presented the following report:

The committee to whom was referred the twentieth annual report of the Western Theological Seminary beg leave to report as follows, viz.:

This seminary was founded twenty years ago by the General Assembly, and its present location established by that body after much and protracted deliberation. Founded on the same plan with its elder and more honored institution at Princeton, it continues to this day the only other general theological seminary deriving its existence directly from the Assembly and being entirely under its jurisdiction. Those who have from time to time been called by the General Assembly to act as its Directors, the guardians of its interests, and the conservators of its funds, the pecuniary means of its subsistence and usefulness, have in these twenty years constantly entertained the hope that it would be so cherished by the General Assembly that its paternal solicitude for its welfare would result eventually in the adoption of effective measures to ensure the substantial benefits of its fostering care. They have supposed that the time would come when, amidst its protracted and anxious deliberations in respect to its other institutions and boards, and amidst its broad and noble plans for doing good, it would not content itself with a mere passing notice of this, for the most part making its supervision of this object of its creation, and its connection with it, rather a calamity and an impediment than a blessing. Your committee are, however, sorry to be obliged to say that this reasonable hope has been almost entirely deferred, and of the many thousands of dollars which its wants have demanded and secured to it, almost all have been collected within what was originally the Synod of Pittsburgh and some few adjacent Presbyteries. The Assembly itself has made no call upon the Church at large to aid in its endowment and support, nor upon the Presbyteries to adopt systematic measures to ensure contributions to its funds. The consequences have been such as might be anticipated where so great a burden is laid upon a mere fraction of the Church. Anxiety and embarrassment, and often great discouragement, have oppressed the minds of its Directors, and their present difficulties are not small.

Your committee think that now, when the endowment of the Theological Seminary at Princeton is understood to be completed or nearly so, the Assembly should direct its thoughts, its prayers, and its energies to the redemption of the pledge which was thus early given, and has been so long delayed, and

take measures forthwith to fulfil for it the provision which has been made for Princeton, that when this is done our Church may be ready, if need be, to go forward and endow far in the West or South-west a third seminary sustaining to the Assembly the same relation. In doing this, however, your committee would not desire that the Assembly should in any wise interfere with the interests or plans of any other theological seminaries of our Church not under its care, or divert any funds which the Presbyteries and churches concerned may have a preference in bestowing upon them; but they think that in perfect harmony with this provision important aid may now be obtained to complete an endowment which has been zealously undertaken by the Presbyteries in its more immediate vicinity.

Your committee would therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolutions, viz.:

1. *Resolved*, That the report of the Board of Directors be approved, and the same be printed in the Appendix to the *Minutes*.

2. *Resolved*, That the Board of Directors be directed to appoint one or more agents to act under the authority of the General Assembly in soliciting aid in the Church for the purpose of completing the endowment of the professorships in the said seminary; and that it be recommended to the Presbyteries to take such measures as they may deem expedient to facilitate the object contemplated in this resolution.

On motion, the report was accepted, and the resolutions adopted.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a committee be appointed on the ways and means of increasing the Commissioners' Fund, and of providing some remedy for those members of this Assembly who are, in whole or in part, dependent on this fund.

The report of the committee on the report of the Board of Foreign Missions was taken up, and adopted, and is as follows, viz.:

The committee to whom was referred the report of the Board of Foreign Missions beg leave to submit the following resolutions, viz.:

1. *Resolved*, That the report of the Board of Foreign Missions be approved, and referred to the Executive Committee for publication and distribution among the churches.

2. *Resolved*, That the General Assembly have abundant ground of encouragement and devout thanksgiving to the great Head of the Church in the evidence of success which has attended the operations of the Board during the last ecclesiastical year.

3. *Resolved*, That as God in his providence is opening many and effectual doors, and spreading out before our Board of Foreign Missions many interesting and extensive fields, and inviting them to enter and take possession, it is the imperative duty of the Church, with combined and more vigorous efforts, to prosecute the work in which we have embarked.

4. *Resolved*, That, as there are adequate pecuniary resources in the churches under the care of this General Assembly, if called forth, to meet all the engagements of the Board, it be recommended to them to extend the sphere of their operations as far as practicable in strengthening existing stations and in establishing new ones.

5. *Resolved*, That whilst it is our duty to labor and pray with increased energy and zeal for the conversion of the heathen, the Assembly recognizes her obligations to increase her efforts in behalf of papal Europe, as well as the seed of Abraham, remembering that all the "kingdoms of this world are to become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ."

6. *Resolved*, That, whilst the Assembly learn with pleasure that there has been a considerable increase in the amount of contributions of the churches to the Board the last year, it is with painful regret that they learn that a

large proportion of our churches have contributed nothing to this important object, and that some of our churches, instead of sustaining their own Board, direct their contributions through other and foreign channels.

7. *Resolved*, That all the churches under the care of this General Assembly are expected, as a matter of duty and consistency, to contribute, systematically and annually, to the fund of this Board.

8. *Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Board to adopt measures to secure the object referred to in the preceding resolution by a wise system of agency or otherwise, and that it be earnestly recommended to the Presbyteries efficiently to co-operate in this matter.

9. *Resolved*, That, recognizing our dependence upon the blessing of God and the agency of the Holy Spirit for the success of this great enterprise for the conversion of the world, it be earnestly recommended to all the churches under our care to cultivate the spirit of prayer, and more earnestly and unitedly to seek the divine blessing upon the efforts of this Board, as well as of similar institutions, especially in the monthly concert.

On motion, the unfinished business was resumed—viz. the complaint against the Synod of North Carolina and the Presbytery of Fayetteville—pending discussion on which the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday morning, May 28.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had granted leave to Messrs. Boyer, Lee, Eilenberger, and Ross.

The Moderator announced the following persons as the committee on the Commissioners' Fund—viz. Messrs. F. N. Ewing, Burghardt, and John M. Johnston.

The committee appointed to examine the report of the Board of Publication presented a report, which was placed on the docket. Upon their motion, the election of members to fill vacancies in the Board was made the order of the day for to-morrow morning at half-past nine o'clock; and nominations were made accordingly.

The committee on demission of the pastoral office, to whom the subject had been recommitted with instructions, reported, and their report was received and placed on the docket.

The order of the day was taken up, and the Assembly entered on an election of Directors of Princeton Seminary. Messrs. Colt and Simril were appointed to collect and count the ballots.

The committee on the memorials of the Synods of Pittsburgh, Wheeling, and Virginia upon Christian union reported, and their report was adopted, and is as follows, viz.:

"The committee to whom were referred the memorials of the Synods of Pittsburgh, Wheeling, and Virginia respecting Christian union and intercourse have considered the subject, and submit the following report:

"It is well known that the manifestation of unity among evangelical Christians occupies a distinguished place in the public mind at the present time. Nor can it be alleged that it deserves not the consideration which it has received.

"The convention held last year in London has greatly increased the attention given to this subject among Protestants, and it is hoped the results of that meeting may be extensively and permanently beneficial. If real Christians, who hold fast the form of sound words and feel the purifying and elevating power of truth, shall perceive more clearly their substantial agree-

ment, love one another more fervently, and co-operate in the work of faith and labor of love more extensively and zealously, the advantage to the common cause of Christianity will be real and great.

"We would by no means call in question the organization or operation of that branch of the Christian Alliance which has been constituted in our country, but would rather bid those brethren God-speed in their legitimate efforts, and pray that the blessing of the God of peace may abide with them always. Still, it may be inquired whether some plan of intercourse and combined effort may not be adopted which may specifically include those denominations who hold the same faith and the same ecclesiastical form of government and discipline, substantially and truly, which we hold, that may greatly contribute to more intimate and complete unity in sentiment, affection, and practice. If this can be accomplished in a considerable degree in a way which will be safe, and will not interfere at all with denominational peculiarities and interests, it will be much gain to the cause of truth and charity. And thus, not only entire apostasy from true Christianity in its various forms, but errors of dangerous tendency, may be more effectually resisted and the system of salvation by free and sovereign grace may be more favorably exhibited before the Christian public.

"It is to be particularly observed, however, that such a plan should bear no relation whatever to the amalgamation of those denominations who may be willing to enter into such an arrangement. This must be left to each in its own ecclesiastical capacity. Only that unity which is consistent with denominational distinction should be embraced in the plan.

"It is therefore respectfully recommended that the General Assembly offer for consideration to the supreme judicatories of those denominations in the United States who are of the description above mentioned the following propositions:

"1. The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, the Synods of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, the Associate Presbyterian Church, the Reformed Dutch Protestant Church, and the German Reformed Church will appoint both ministerial and lay delegates in such numbers as they shall deem proper to meet in conference at such time and place as shall be hereafter designated, and consult and decide respecting such a suitable plan of intercourse as may be deemed profitable and safe.

"2. The results of this conference shall be reported to the several bodies, and shall be regarded as adopted only so far as they shall be approved by each body.

"3. This Assembly will appoint a committee who shall have the charge of previous arrangements so far as we are concerned, and shall be authorized to communicate with the bodies above named and confer with any committee by them appointed."

The order of the day for ten o'clock having arrived, the report of the Board of Education was taken up, and referred to the following committee—viz. Dr. Chamberlain, Dr. Jones, and T. R. Lee.

On motion, the elections to fill vacancies in the Board was made the second order of the day for to-morrow morning at half-past nine o'clock; and nominations were made accordingly.

The committee on the Commissioners' Fund made a report, which was re-committed, with instructions to ascertain the precise deficit in said fund.

The unfinished business was then taken up—viz. the complaint against the Synod of North Carolina—and the Moderator gave the usual charge. Pending the discussion the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Friday afternoon, 4 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

A letter was read from the Rev. J. I. Helm, delegate to the Evangelical Consociation of Rhode Island, stating that he had performed the duty assigned him.

The tellers appointed to collect and count the ballots for Directors of the Theological Seminary at Princeton, reported the following persons as duly elected, viz. :

MINISTERS.

Ashbel Green, D. D.,
Jacob J. Janeway, D. D.,
Henry A. Boardman, D. D.,
Nicholas Murray, D. D.,
John C. Backus,
W. W. Phillips, D. D.,

And in place of the Rev. Wm. Latta,
D. D., dec'd, Samuel Beach Jones.

RULING ELDERS.

James Donaldson,
Moses Allen,
James N. Dickson.

The committees on the records of the Synods of Cincinnati and Indiana reported that they had not been put into their hands, and were discharged.

The committee on the Contingent Fund reported, and their report was adopted, and is as follows, viz. :

The committee, consisting of the Treasurer, the Stated Clerk, and the members of the Finance Committee, to whom was referred the condition of the Contingent Fund, beg leave to report that there is a deficiency in this fund. The amount paid in for this object at the present session is but \$772, which is about \$400 short of the sum that will be necessary. Accompanying this report we submit a statement of the amount of the Contingent Fund for each year from 1841 to the present time. There are a number of Presbyteries that have sent up no money at all for this fund, and your committee, in view of the foregoing statements, would offer the following resolution :

Resolved, That the General Assembly does hereby enjoin upon the Presbyteries within its bounds, which have not contributed their proportion to the Contingent Fund, that they do not fail to remit at an early day such amounts as they may have raised or may be able to collect for that purpose. Also, that in future at their spring meetings of each year, they make regular provision for the Contingent Fund of the ensuing General Assembly, and remit the same to the Treasurer as early as possible during the session. All of which is respectfully submitted.

Statement.—In the year 1841 there was collected, \$1518.82; 1842, \$1567.01; 1843, \$1541.31; 1844, \$1340.90; 1845, \$1395.63; 1846, \$1207.63; for 1847, collected to the present time, \$772. The drafts on the Contingent Fund for the last year were \$1144.03, with one claim of \$47.50 which is unpaid, making \$1191.53.

The unfinished business was resumed, pending discussion on which the Assembly adjourned.

Concluded with prayer.

Saturday morning, May 29.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises presented the following report, which was adopted, viz. :

The Committee on Devotional Exercises would further report, recommend-

ing that in the administration of the sacrament of the Lord's Supper the following order be observed, and the following persons officiate—viz. 1. That the preparatory sermon be preached by the Rev. Dr. Hoge. 2. That the introductory statement and prayer be made by the Rev. Dr. Chamberlain. 3. That the Bread be administered by the Rev. Dr. Janeway. 4. That the Cup be administered by the Rev. Dr. Schoonmaker. 5. Concluding prayer and psalmody by the Rev. Dr. Paxton. 6. Benediction by the Moderator. In conclusion, the committee report that they have appointed supplies for the coming Sabbath for the numerous churches which have been offered to them, and to the pastors and officers of which this Assembly return thanks for their fraternal and Christian courtesies.

The Committee on Leave of Absence presented the following report, viz. :

The Committee on Leave of Absence beg leave to make a special report to the Assembly. They would state that applications for leave of absence are becoming so numerous that the Assembly is in danger of being reduced in a few days more to a very small body. The committee wish to be instructed as to the degree of strictness which they shall observe in refusing leave of absence to members.

The report was accepted, and the committee, on motion, were instructed to apply the rule rigidly.

The Committee on the Commissioners' Fund presented a report, which being amended, was adopted, and is as follows, viz. :

The committee to whom was referred the consideration of increasing the Commissioners' Fund would respectfully report that whereas there is great inequality in bearing the expenses of delegates in going to and returning from the Assembly; and whereas this burden rests chiefly on those who are the least able to bear it; therefore

Resolved, That while the Assembly would not interfere with any arrangements that any Presbytery may choose to make to defray the expenses of its own delegates, we would enjoin on the weak Presbyteries to see to it that their churches contribute as largely as possible; and that the more able ones, and especially such as are not very remote from the place where the Assembly meets, be required to have collections taken up in their churches for a *Common Commissioners' Fund*, to aid the weaker Presbyteries in defraying the expenses of their delegates.

Certain resolutions in regard to the present war and to the establishment of a weekly paper were read and put on the docket.

The orders of the day were then taken up, and the Assembly went into an election of Directors of the Boards of Publication and Education. Messrs. Mitchell and Houston were appointed to collect and count the ballots for the former, and Messrs. Chapman and Walker for the latter.

The committee on the annual report of the Trustees of the Western Theological Seminary submitted the following resolutions, which were adopted, viz. :

Resolved, 1. That the said report be approved and printed in the Appendix to the *Minutes* of the Assembly.

Resolved, 2. That the charter or act of incorporation granted by the Legislature of the State of Pennsylvania, and accepted by the General Assembly at its sessions in Cincinnati in 1845, be printed in the *Minutes* in connection with this report.

Resolved, 3. That the change in the Board of Trustees recommended in the said report be adopted, and that the persons therein mentioned be appointed Trustees in the room of those whose term of service is thus closed.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed by the Moderator to nominate the persons contemplated in the resolutions on Chris-

tian union. Drs. Hoge, Janeway, Snodgrass, and Gray, and Mr. J. N. Dickson were appointed that committee.

The unfinished business was resumed, and it was on motion,

Resolved, That the question on the dismissal of the ease be taken not later than 12 o'clock to-day.

The hour of 12 having arrived, the question was accordingly taken, and the following was the decision of the Assembly in the ease, viz.:

Whereas, the Rev. Archibald McQueen prosecuted a complaint before the Assembly of 1845 against the Presbytery of Fayetteville for refusing to restore him to the exercise of the gospel ministry, and did at the same time memorialize that Assembly to decree his restoration; and whereas that Assembly did take up and judiciously entertain the said complaint, and pronounced judgment in the ease by authorizing and recommending the Presbytery to restore the said Archibald McQueen to the gospel ministry, provided that in the judgment of the Presbytery it was wise so to do; and whereas the Presbytery, in the exercise of the discretion thus confided to them, did restore Mr. McQueen; therefore

Resolved, That the complaint of the Rev. Colin McIver and others against the Synod of North Carolina for having sustained the action of the Presbytery of Fayetteville in restoring the said Archibald McQueen, in accordance with the judicial decision of the Assembly of 1845, cannot be entertained by this House, and is hereby dismissed.

In making this disposition of the above-mentioned complaint this General Assembly wishes it to be distinctly understood that they do not mean either to retract or modify any judgment hitherto expressed by any Assembly respecting the offence for which Mr. McQueen was suspended from the exercise of the gospel ministry. They simply declare that his case cannot be regularly brought before them by this complaint.

The yeas and nays were called for on this resolution, and are as follows, viz.:

YEAS.—Bartley, Eastman, Proudfit, Chester, Buck, Jackson, Reinhart, Waterman, Petrie, Jagger, Nimmo, Evans, Lowrie, Carpenter, Bull, Tyler, Hornblower, Barton, Hodge, J. J. Janeway, Jacob W. E. Ker, Gray, Sherwood, Colt, Hunt, F. A. Ewing, Hamill, McKeen, Dunham, Thos. L. Janeway, Harlow, Gayley, McLean, Peebles, Woods, Hudson, Dickson, Vanarsdalen, E. M. Donaldson, J. N. Brown, Alexander, Brugler, John Caruthers, Quay, Davis, Fulton, Cook, Coulter, Laughlin, John Carothers, Fleming, Hunter, James Hoge, Vanatta, M. M. Brown, Robinson, McCandlish, Moses A. Hoge, Morton, Raymond, Thompson, Crowe, Ferguson, Irwin, Burghardt, Well, Vaill, Steel, Greenlee, Munson, Cayce, F. N. Ewing, A. A. Hogue, Price, Ralph Harris, B. D. Thomas, E. Thomas, Baleh, Hodgeman, Hume, Putnam, Simril, Jones, Cunningham, Lockridge, Crane, Merrell, Hooper, Chapman, Beadle, McCallum, S. I. Reid, Miller, P. A. Walker, Chamberlain—95.

NAYS.—Snodgrass, Reeve, Junkin, Berry, Swift, Young, Montgomery, Robert Carothers, Campbell, Loomis, R. Donaldson, James Kerr, Adams, Patterson, McFerren, Lyle, Semple, Moodie, Cooper, Woodrow, Gazlay, Whallon, Belville, John M. Johnston, H. L. Brown, James Johnston, Wright, Pratt, Paxton, Morrison, Sparrow, Allen, Pryor, Graham, Gilkeson, White, Watkins, McIlwaine, Wade, Mathers, McBride, Harrison, A. Walker, S. E. Wilson, Snowden, Smythe, Mitchell, Houston, John P. Ker, McLeod, Lawrence, H. R. Wilson, W. M. Reid—53.

Dr. Hoyt was excused from voting.

The committee appointed to nominate a committee of conference from this General Assembly on the subject of Christian union reported the following

nominations, which, on motion, were confirmed—viz. Dr. Phillips, Dr. J. W. Alexander, Dr. Snodgrass, Dr. Krebs, Dr. Potts, Mr. Lenox, Mr. Oliphant, and Mr. Steel.

The Rev. Dr. Schoonmaker, delegate from the Synod of the Reformed Dutch Church, addressed the Assembly, and took his leave.

The following resolution was offered, and laid on the table, viz.:

Resolved, That this General Assembly, in virtue of authority vested in it by the Form of Government, ch. xii. sect. 5, does hereby solemnly reprove, warn, and bear testimony against those Presbyteries and church Sessions under the care of this Assembly which tolerate within their bounds the practice of immorality in allowing the formation of the marriage relation on the part of ministers and church members contrary to the word of God and the Confession of Faith, ch. xxiv. sect. 4, and for neglecting and failing to enforce the discipline of the Church in such cases.

The committee to whom was referred the report of the Board of Education reported, recommending the following resolutions, which were adopted, viz.:

1. *Resolved*, That this Assembly reiterate their conviction of the importance of ministerial education in its relations to all the enterprises of the Church and to the conversion of the world.

2. *Resolved*, That this Assembly solemnly recognize the sovereign grace of God in calling the sons of the Church into the ministry, and also acknowledge the obligations of his Church to use all scriptural and proper means to increase the number of candidates, especially by prayer to the Lord of the harvest, ministerial instruction, parental consecration, Christian education, and pecuniary assistance to those who may need it.

3. *Resolved*, That it be specially recommended to our ministers and churches not only to pray for an increase of laborers, but also to remember in their prayers the youth of the Church who have already commenced their preparatory studies, and who are naturally exposed to many temptations which the Spirit of God can alone enable them to resist.

4. *Resolved*, That the Presbyteries be enjoined to use unceasing vigilance in the examination of candidates, and to retain a strict pastoral supervision over them throughout their entire preparatory course; and that the Board of Education be enjoined to continue the plan of personal visitation and correspondence, and to use their best endeavors to promote a high standard of ministerial qualification.

5. *Resolved*, That the Board of Education exercise the same pastoral care over the candidates for the ministry who are sustained by the permanent funds of the General Assembly as over those who are sustained by the annual collections of the churches.

6. *Resolved*, That the annual report be committed to the Board for publication.

The committee on demission presented a report, which was, after some debate, again recommitted.

The Rev. Sayrs Gazlay gave notice of his desire to enter his dissent from the vote to lay on the table the resolution warning the Presbyteries on the subject of unlawful marriages; and also of his intention to enter, on behalf of himself and others, a protest against the decision to dismiss Judicial Case No. 1.

On motion, it was made the order of the day immediately after reading the minutes at the next session to take up the report on parochial schools.

And then the Assembly adjourned until Monday morning at nine o'clock.
Concluded with prayer.

Monday morning, May 31.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Committee on Commissions reported as an additional Commissioner Aaron L. Lindsley, minister, from the Presbytery of Wisconsin.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had granted leave to Messrs. Hodge, J. J. Janeway, Gray, D. McLean, Watson, Bull, Campbell, McVean, Railey, and McKeen.

On motion, the order of the day was suspended to take up the following resolution, viz.:

Resolved, That the General Assembly overture to the Presbyteries the following question—viz. Shall that part of the fourth section of the twenty-fourth chapter of the Confession of Faith from 1 to 2, which says, "Nor can such incestuous marriages ever be made lawful by any law of man or consent of parties, so as those persons may live together as man and wife," be stricken out?

The previous question being insisted on, the resolution was put to the vote, and lost.

The yeas and nays were called for, and are as follows, viz.:

YEAS.—Eastman, Proudfit, Chester, Buck, Reinhart, Nimmo, Evans, Carpenter, Reeve, Barton, Hudson, Dickson, Vanarsdalen, J. N. Brown, Davis, Swift, Fulton, Cook, Coulter, Montgomery, Loomis, R. Donaldson, Adams, Patterson, Hunter, M. M. Brown, Morton, H. L. Brown, Raymond, Thompson, Ferguson, Burghardt, Vaill, Greenlee, F. N. Ewing, A. A. Hogue, B. D. Thomas, Hays, Baleh, Gilkeson, Lynch, McNair, Pharr, Gibbs, C. W. Harris, Hodgeman, Hume, Putnam, Harrison, Simril, Hoyt, Cunningham, Lockridge, Hooper, Chamberlain, Samuel I. Reid, Walker—57.

NAYS.—Bartley, Waterman, Petrie, Jagger, Lowrie, Tyler, Hornblower, Jacob W. E. Ker, Junkin, Sherwood, Colt, Hunt, Hamill, Dunham, T. L. Janeway, Harlow, Gayley, Berry, Peebles, Woods, E. M. Donaldson, Alexander, Brugler, John Caruthers, Young, Robert Carothers, Laughlin, John Carothers, Fleming, James Kerr, McFerren, Lyle, James Hoge, Robinson, McCandlish, Semple, Moses A. Hoge, Moodie, Cooper, Woodrow, Gazlay, Whallon, Belville, John M. Johnston, James Johnston, Crowe, Irwin, Wright, Wells, Steel, Pratt, Lindsley, Watson, Munson, Cayce, Paxton, Ralph Harris, E. Thomas, Morrison, Sparrow, Allen, Pryor, Graham, White, B. F. Watkins, Mellwaine, Wade, Hughes, A. D. Campbell, Rockwell, Garland, R. V. Watkins, Mathes, McBride, A. Walker, Snowden, Jones, Crane, Smythe, Chapman, Mitchell, Houston, John P. Kerr, McLeod, Beadle, McCallum, Miller, H. R. Wilson—89.

The committee on the records of the Synod of North Carolina reported, recommending their approval; and their report was adopted.

The report of the committee on the records of the Synod of Northern Indiana was taken up, recommending approval, with the following exceptions—viz. 1. On page 27, where a record is made of the opening sermon of Synod, it does not appear that the Moderator of the previous year who prepared the sermon was present to preach it, nor does it appear whether he was present or absent during the entire meeting. 2. On page 32, where Synod take exception to the records of the Presbytery of Michigan as defective, Synod did not require that Presbytery to review and correct said records. 3. On page 54 the Synod censure the Presbytery of Michigan for retaining the name of Mr. Nicoll on the roll after suspending him from the gospel ministry. Your committee are of the opinion that the name of a suspended minister should be retained on the roll of Presbytery till they proceed to

the higher censure, though he be deprived of the exercise of his ministerial functions.

The report was adopted.

The committee on demission of the pastoral office presented a report, which was adopted, and is as follows, viz. :

The committee to which was referred the matter concerning the demission of the pastoral office respectfully report for the consideration of the Assembly the following statement and resolution—viz. 1. With all the care which the Presbyteries can exercise in the examination of candidates, and with all the inquiry which candidates may sincerely make after the path of duty, it has happened, and will again occur, that men may mistake their calling, and be introduced to the office of the ministry without those qualifications which will enable them with profit to the Church and comfort to themselves to continue to exercise its functions. 2. It is a fact that many persons do practically demit the exercise of the office, engaging entirely in secular pursuits, and yet, 3. Their names remain upon our rolls, they are accounted as ministers, and are counted in estimating the ratio of representation of the Presbyteries to which they belong, thus giving to some Presbyteries a preponderance in the General Assembly to which they are not justly entitled under the fair operation of our system. There is no reason for deposing or suspending them, they have no authority to demit the exercise of their office, nor have Presbyteries a right to permit such demission; and these worthy brethren are constrained to live on with vows resting upon them which they have neither the ability nor opportunity to perform; therefore

Resolved, That it be referred to the Presbyteries whether the following sections shall be added to the 15th chapter of our Form of Government, viz. :

“XVI. The office of a minister of the gospel is perpetual and cannot be laid aside at pleasure. No person can be divested of it but by deposition. Yet from various causes a minister may become incapable of performing the duties of the office, or he may, though chargeable with neither heresy nor immorality, become unacceptable in his official character. In such cases he may cease to be an acting minister.

“XVII. Whenever a minister from any cause, not inferring heresy or crime, shall be incapable of serving the Church to edification, the Presbytery shall take order on the subject, and state the fact, together with the reasons of it, on their records. And when any person has thus ceased to be an acting minister, he shall not be a member of any Presbytery or Synod, but shall be subject to discipline as other ministers; *provided always*, that nothing of this kind shall be done without the consent of the individual in question, except by advice of the Synod.”

The order of the day was then taken up—viz. the report of the committee to whom was referred the report of the Board of Education on parochial schools. The resolutions were considered *seriatim*, amended, and adopted, and are as follows, viz. :

The committee to whom was referred the report of the Board of Education beg leave to recommend the adoption of the following resolutions :

1. *Resolved*, That the report be committed to the Board of Education, in order that it may be printed and circulated among the churches.

2. *Resolved*, That this Assembly do hereby express their firm conviction that the interests of the Church and the glory of our Redeemer demand that immediate and strenuous exertions should be made, so far as practicable, by every congregation to establish within its bounds one or more primary schools, under the care of the Session of the Church, in which, together with the usual branches of secular learning, the truths and duties of our holy religion shall be assiduously inculcated.

3. *Resolved*, That this Assembly do hereby earnestly call upon all the Synods and Presbyteries under their care to take the subject of Christian education under consideration, and to devise and execute whatever measures they may deem most appropriate for securing the establishment of parochial and Presbyterian schools in our bounds.

4. *Resolved*, That a committee consisting of one minister and one ruling elder be appointed by each Presbytery to collect information as to the number and condition of schools within the bounds of the Presbytery, the number of children under fifteen years of age belonging to their congregations, the state of public opinion in respect to education, the ability of the churches to sustain teachers and build school-houses, and whatever other statistical information relating to education they may deem important; and that these committees forward their reports to the Board of Education on or before the 1st of January, 1848.

5. *Resolved*, That this whole subject be referred to the Board of Education, and that the Board is hereby authorized to expend whatever moneys are committed to them for that purpose in aid of the establishment of parochial and Presbyterian schools.

6. *Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Board of Publication to make inquiries on the subject of elementary school-books, with a view of adapting them, as far as practicable, to a system of religious instruction; and that the Board report on this subject to the next General Assembly.

The committee on the memorial from the Presbytery of Baltimore in relation to the erection of a church in Washington City reported, and their report was adopted, and is as follows, viz.:

That, in their judgment, the object contemplated in said memorial is an important one, and justly claims, upon its merits, the charitable consideration of the friends of our Church in all parts of the country.

They are of opinion, however, that it would be highly inexpedient and of dangerous precedent for the Assembly to engage, as such, in an enterprise of this description.

They therefore recommend that the memorial, with the accompanying papers, be respectfully referred back to the Presbytery of Baltimore, within the bounds of which the city of Washington lies, in the hope that, if they shall judge it expedient to take any further steps in the matter, the effort may be sustained by the liberality of the churches.

A report was read from the Rev. Benjamin H. Rhee, D. D., delegate to the General Association of Massachusetts.

A communication was read from the complainants in Judicial Case No. 1, acquainting the Assembly with their submission to the late decision in said case, and at the same time, inasmuch as the Synodical and Presbyterian acts against which they had complained had neither been reversed nor sustained by any General Assembly, with their intention to renew the complaint, should they see fit, to the next General Assembly for final adjudication.

On motion, leave was granted said complainants to withdraw their papers.

The Assembly then went into an election of a preacher of the annual sermon on popery; when the Rev. Alexander T. McGill, D. D., was chosen principal, and the Rev. Wm. S. Plumer, D. D., alternate.

On motion, the Clerks were appointed a special committee to recommend to the Assembly the papers suitable to be printed in the Appendix.

Judicial Case No. 2, being an appeal of John Cathey from a decision of the session of Paw Creek Church, suspending him from sealing ordinances for marrying his deceased wife's sister, was dismissed, as not having come up through the inferior judicatories, and the case remitted to the Presbytery of Concord for adjudication.

The report of the committee to whom was referred the report of the Board of Publication was taken up, recommending the following resolutions, which were adopted, viz.:

1. *Resolved*, That the report be approved, and published under the direction of the officers of the Board.

2. *Resolved*, That in the opinion of the Assembly the affairs of this Board have been conducted with judgment, energy, and success, calling for the continued and increased confidence of the churches in its operations as a means of usefulness.

3. *Resolved*, That the Assembly cordially approves the plan proposed by the Board for circulating its books, and earnestly recommends it to the immediate attention of the churches.

4. *Resolved*, That the Assembly is highly gratified that the Board has entered upon a system of colportage as an agency for the circulation of its books; and, while repeating the recommendation of former Assemblies that funds be raised by Synods and Presbyteries for the establishment of depositories owned and managed by themselves, the Assembly would further recommend that they employ in connection with these depositories the colporteurs appointed by the Board.

5. *Resolved*, That the Assembly approves of the charter obtained by the Board, and orders that, in accordance with the terms of the charter, it shall hereafter be known by the name of "The Presbyterian Board of Publication."

6. *Resolved*, That the Assembly also provides, in accordance with the requirements of the aforesaid charter, that at the annual meeting of the Board of Publication in the year 1848, on the day when the Board meets to reorganize and elect its officers, it shall proceed to elect, by ballot, three persons in the room of the three first named of the Trustees of the Presbyterian Board of Publication incorporated by the aforesaid charter; on the day of the annual meeting in 1849 it shall proceed in like manner to elect three persons in the room of the second three Trustees named in the charter aforesaid; and on the day of the annual meeting of the Board of Publication in 1850 it shall elect in the same manner three persons in the room of the three remaining Trustees of the aforesaid Board; and thenceforward annually electing three persons in the room of that class which has served three years; *provided always*, that the same persons shall be re-eligible.

7. *Resolved*, That the Presbyterian Board of Publication may also, at any of its regular meetings, elect persons to fill vacancies occurring by death, resignation, or otherwise.

Overtures Nos. 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15 were taken up, and disposed of as follows, viz.:

Overture No. 10. An overture from the Presbytery of Palmyra proposing that the Assembly should establish immediately a literary institution of high order in Oregon. The recommendation of the committee was adopted, viz.:

Resolved, That it is not expedient for this General Assembly to grant the request.

Overture No. 11. An overture from Thomas R. Lee, a member of this House, proposing certain specific alterations in the Book of Discipline, was referred to a special committee to report to the next Assembly—viz. Rev. Mr. Cunningham, Dr. Hoge, Dr. Howe, Hon. E. A. Nisbit, and Hon. Job Johnston.

Overture No. 12. An overture from the Presbytery of Mississippi, requesting the General Assembly to recommend to the Board of Publication to issue suitable books of sermons and helps for devotion, to be used by

vacant congregations; and to inquire whether ruling elders representing such congregations should be interrogated concerning the observance of the recommendations contained in chap. xxi. of the Form of Government. The recommendation of the committee was adopted, viz.:

Resolved, That the former part of this overture, relating to the publication of books, be referred to the Board of Publication; and that the latter part be answered in the affirmative.

Overture No. 13. An overture from the Synods of Philadelphia and New Jersey, the one requesting, and the other objecting to, a proposed alteration of their boundary-line. The recommendation of the committee was adopted, viz.:

Resolved, That as the two Synods interested in the question are not agreed in relation to it, it is inexpedient for the Assembly to make the alteration proposed by the Synod of Philadelphia.

Overture No. 14. An overture from the Presbytery of Oxford in reference to an alleged inaccuracy in the printed *Minutes* of the General Assembly of 1844. The recommendation of the committee was adopted, viz.:

Resolved, That this overture be referred to the Stated Clerk of the Assembly, with the request that he would report to this House the facts in reference to the case referred to.

Overture No. 15. An overture from the Presbytery of Louisiana presenting several constitutional questions for the decision of the Assembly, was referred to the same special committee to whom was referred Overture No. 11, to report to the next Assembly.

The tellers appointed to collect and count the votes for Directors of the Board of Publication reported the following persons as duly elected, viz.:

MINISTERS.

A. Alexander, D. D.,
J. W. McDowell, D. D.,
W. D. Snodgrass, D. D.,
N. H. Hardin, D. D.,
C. C. Cuyler, D. D.,
W. S. Plumer, D. D.,
C. C. Jones, D. D.,
C. C. Beatty, D. D.,
R. J. Breekinridge, D. D.,
J. N. Campbell, D. D.,
Thomas Smythe, D. D.,
Reuben Smith,
R. S. Berry,

LAYMEN.

W. Auchincloss,
J. B. Ross,
Hon. Harmar Denny,
J. Dunlap,
Wm. S. Martien,
H. McKeen,
J. P. Engles,
Hon. Joel Jones,
E. Vaill,
D. C. Campbell,
S. Franklin,
Hon. N. Ewing.

Rev. S. Ramsay Wilson in the room of Rev. J. L. Wilson, D. D.; Rev. J. W. Alexander in the room of Mr. Loughbridge; W. Chester, D. D., in the room of Rev. J. Culbertson, ministers. Mr. Foster in the room of Mr. Bayless, and Mr. Walker in the room of Mr. Morris, laymen.

And then the Assembly adjourned.
Concluded with prayer.

Monday afternoon, 4 o'clock.

The Assembly met, and was opened with prayer.

The minutes were read and approved.

The tellers appointed to collect and count the ballots for Directors of the Board of Education reported the following persons as elected, viz.:

For Four Years.

MINISTERS.

Philip Lindsley, D. D.,
 David Magie, D. D.,
 George Potts, D. D.,
 R. J. Breckinridge, D. D.,
 A. Tudehope,
 M. B. Hope, M. D.,
 Wm. Chester, D. D.,
 W. W. Phillips, D. D.

LAYMEN.

M. L. Bevan,
 Hon. N. Ewing,
 Thomas McKen,
 H. H. Leverett,
 F. N. King,
 James Patterson,
 Wm. S. Ridgley, M. D.,
 James H. Fitzgerald,
 John I. White,

And the Hon. Eugenius A. Nisbit for three years to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. A. G. Miller.

On motion,

Resolved, 1. That the thanks of this General Assembly be respectfully tendered to the citizens of Richmond and its vicinity, for their polite and hospitable attentions during the sittings of the Assembly; and also to the directors of the steamboat and railroad companies for the generous facilities granted the members in going to and from the city of Richmond.

Resolved, 2. That the thanks of the Assembly be returned to the Session of the First Presbyterian Church for the use of their house of worship; and that these resolutions be published in the daily papers of the city.

On motion,

Resolved, 1. That this Assembly has heard with satisfaction the sermon preached by the Rev. C. C. Jones, D. D., of Georgia, according to their appointment, on the subject of the religious instruction of the colored population.

Resolved, 2. That the Assembly regard this subject as one of very great interest and importance, and recognize the goodness of God in opening this field to our ministers and missionaries to so large an extent and with such cordial approbation from the community.

Resolved, 3. That the Board of Missions be directed, if it appears to them advisable, to appoint a secretary or general agent from and for the South and South-west, who shall superintend the collection of funds and the location of missionaries, and attend to the other duties of this department, in co-operation with the Presbyteries and churches in that section of country.

The Stated Clerk, to whom was referred the memorial of the Presbytery of Oxford relating to an inaccuracy in the *Minutes* of 1844 as to the boundary-line between the Synods of Cincinnati and Indiana, made a statement on the subject; whereupon it was

Resolved, That the word "Northern" should be inserted before the word "Indiana," on page 333 of the *Minutes* referred to.

It was moved that, in order to meet the wants of the Church, this General Assembly recommend to the Board of Publication to prepare and publish as soon as practicable a system of doctrinal and scriptural questions adapted to the use of Bible-classes and Sabbath-schools. The resolution was laid on the table.

It was moved, 1. That the various Boards of the Church be, and they hereby are, authorized to establish a paper to be published weekly, in which such communications as said Boards may consider valuable may be placed before the churches. 2. That it be recommended to the members of the Church to sustain and patronize such paper. 3. That the price of said paper be made as cheap as may be consistent with its healthy existence. The resolutions were laid on the table.

On motion,

Resolved, That in view of the continuance of the war in which we are en-

gaged, and of the great and dreadful evils of war, it be earnestly recommended to all our churches to humble themselves before Almighty God, with confession of their own sins and of the people, and to engage in fervent and continued prayer that as individuals and as a nation we may be forgiven; that there may be a speedy, righteous, and amicable adjustment of all existing difficulties with other nations; and that we may be permitted to enjoy without interruption the blessings of peace.

Resolved, That all pastors and all others preaching statedly be requested to bring this subject before the several churches in which they minister on the second Sabbath of July, or as soon after as it may be convenient, and to urge upon our people the duty pointed out in the foregoing resolution.

The Rev. Mr. Berry offered a protest on behalf of himself and others against the decision of the Assembly in Judicial Case No. 1, which was read and admitted to record.

On motion, Messrs. Hoge, Hoyt, and Simril were appointed a committee to answer the protest.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that they had granted leave to Messrs. Hume and Jackson.

The Committee on the Narrative of the State of Religion presented a report, which was read, adopted, and ordered to be printed in the Appendix to the *Minutes*.

On motion,

Resolved, That the Trustees of the General Assembly be directed to pay to the Stated Clerk the bills for the incidental expenses.

The committee appointed to answer the protest of W. T. Berry and others presented a report, which was read and adopted, and, together with the protest, ordered to be entered on the minutes, as follows, viz. :

PROTEST.

The undersigned protest against the decision of this Assembly on dismissing the complaint of Colin Melver and others against the Synod of North Carolina, for the following reasons: 1. The action of the Assembly of 1845, on the ground of which the complaint is dismissed by this Assembly, was not a judicial determination of the case. 2. If it had been a judicial determination of the case, it was unconstitutional, and therefore void, because (1) it thereby restored to the ministry and the privileges of the Church one who had been convicted of an act which the Confession of Faith, cap. xxiv. sect. 4, declares "that no law of man or consent of parties can ever make valid." (2) It was not competent for the Assembly of 1845 to give the advice and recommendation which they did in this case. (3) According to the recommendation of the Assembly itself, the action of the Presbytery was discretionary, and they were responsible for the exercise of that discretion to the higher courts.

R. T. BERRY,	P. J. SPARROW,
JAMES KERR,	W. T. ADAMS,
W. H. MITCHELL,	J. L. BELVILLE,
A. O. PATTERSON,	SAYRS GAZLAY,
G. T. SNOWDEN,	WM. COOPER,
A. G. McILWAINE,	JOHN P. KERR,
W. W. WHITE,	EDWARD W. WRIGHT,
LOYAL YOUNG,	JAMES JOHNSTON.

ANSWER.

The protestants have respectfully and honestly stated their views, but, we apprehend, have mistaken the true nature of the case; for—

1. The Assembly of 1845 declare in their records that they *did act judicially* on the complaint and memorial of Rev. A. McQueen, and *did decide* that the ends of discipline were answered in his case; and it is not competent for the protestants or for this Assembly to declare the contrary.

2. As this case was before them in a regular manner, it is, therefore, not correct to affirm that their act was unconstitutional in this respect or on account of the nature of their decision.

3. The Constitution, in the place adduced, is to be interpreted by the word of God, which, we apprehend, does not sustain the interpretation of the protestants in that sense of it which they make the basis of their protest.

Further answer we conceive is made unnecessary by the *terms of the resolutions adopted*.

The Clerks made a report upon the papers suitable to be published in the Appendix; whereupon the Stated Clerk was instructed to publish in the Appendix as follows—viz. reports of delegates to corresponding bodies; reports of trustees and directors of the different theological seminaries; report and accompanying documents of the Treasurer of Trustees of General Assembly; abstracts of reports of Boards of Domestic and Foreign Missions, Education, and Publication; Narrative of the State of Religion; and reports of committees on such subjects of interest and importance as the Assembly directs.

On motion, Dr. Snodgrass was added to the special committee to whom were referred Overtures Nos. 11 and 15.

Whereas, it is of great importance, for many reasons, that all the benevolent operations of the Church should be managed with the most thorough and careful economy that is consistent with the highest degree of success; therefore

Resolved, That the following persons—viz. Dr. Plumer, Mr. Brown, Mr. Hunt, Mr. Russell, and Mr. Walker—be appointed to examine the pecuniary management of the Boards of the General Assembly, that they confer with the Boards respectively, and suggest such improvements as they may be able to devise; and that they report fully to the next General Assembly.

The roll was then called, and, on motion, no record made of absentees.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Assembly having completed their business, it was

Resolved, That this General Assembly be dissolved, and that another General Assembly, chosen in like manner, be required to meet in the First Presbyterian Church in the city of Baltimore, on the third Thursday of May, A. D. 1848, at eleven o'clock A. M.

Accordingly, the Moderator dissolved the Assembly with singing, prayer, and the apostolical benediction.

ROBERT DAVIDSON, *Permanent Clerk*.

Richmond, May 31st, 1847.

APPENDIX.

NARRATIVE OF THE STATE OF RELIGION

ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
IN THE UNITED STATES, AND ADDRESSED TO THE CHURCHES UNDER
THEIR CARE.

CHRISTIAN BRETHREN: While occupied with matters pertaining to the government and discipline of the Church in her external and visible relations, we do not forget that her *vital* interests are those which are internal and spiritual. "As the body without the spirit is dead," so faith and government in the house of God are nothing without the presence and agency of that divine Spirit who is the sole efficient agent in edifying the body of Christ as well as in quickening those who are dead in trespasses and sins. The Assembly therefore turn with interest, in the course of their sessions, to the reports of the Presbyteries on the state of religion within their respective bounds, expecting that these communications will reveal the internal condition of the Church in some measure as it is, and serve as a guide to right sentiments and feelings in the review of the past, as well as to proper resolutions and purposes in reference to the future.

Narratives have been received during the sessions of this Assembly from *eighty-four* Presbyteries, and these, when collated and compared, exhibit almost all the varieties of light and shade which a moral picture could be supposed to present. They bring before our minds alternate views of dearth and fruitful showers, of barrenness and of fruitfulness, of lukewarmness and zeal, of decline and improvement. And, while this is true of Presbyteries as compared with each other, the remark is often applicable to congregations within the limits of the same Presbytery.

There is a remarkable agreement among the reports in what they communicate respecting the attendance of our people upon *the public worship of God on the Sabbath*. Most of the Presbyteries refer to this, and, with few exceptions, speak of the attendance not only as equal to what it has been in former years, but as better to a degree which is highly encouraging. As faith cometh by hearing, we cannot but regard this as a token for good. It may be that we are thus furnished with a providential sign that the Lord is preparing his own way, and that the time is near when a rich harvest is to be reaped as the fruit of the seed which is thus extensively sown.

We notice also with pleasure that a large number of the Presbyteries refer with evident satisfaction to the *peace and harmony* which prevail in the churches under their care. For, although the absence of disunion and contention is no certain proof that the cause of truth and piety is advancing upon the surrounding world, it is yet a good and pleasant thing for brethren to dwell together in unity. The Spirit of the Lord is the spirit of peace, and to keep the unity of the spirit in the bonds of peace is one of the great duties devolved upon professing Christians. You will rejoice, therefore, in the intelligence that the churches have been so extensively preserved during the past year from all occasions of alienation and strife, and have walked

together with so much agreement and good will in the faith and fellowship of the gospel.

We are not aware that any previous Assembly has received intelligence from so many quarters of efforts made for *the liquidation of debts upon houses of worship*. The evils resulting from the pressure of pecuniary claims of this description are so multiform and serious that we cannot but rejoice in every successful effort either to remove or lighten the burden which they impose. A new interest has evidently been awakened in many of the churches on this subject. And in cases not a few the immediate practical result has been the payment in full of pecuniary liabilities which had long interfered with their prosperity and restrained their liberality toward other objects of benevolence.

Although the Assembly do not perceive any marked difference between the reports of this and several previous years in respect to *the religious training of the young*, they still regard the subject as too important to be dismissed without notice. The children and youth of any one generation are to form the character and give shape to the destinies of the generation which is to follow. And for this reason there are no efforts so full of promise to the Church and the world as those which bear upon the education of the rising race in the pure principles of the gospel of Christ. It is with reference to this end that our Sabbath-schools are collected and organized, that our Bible-classes are formed, and that measures are taken to instruct the children of our congregations in the Catechisms of the Church. These modes of education, although they are not intended, and cannot with safety be allowed, to take the place of parental instruction, are nevertheless to be regarded as important auxiliaries. And we are enabled to state that during the past year the interest of the churches in them has suffered no decline. They have been employed quite as extensively, and in many cases with more vigor and efficiency, than heretofore. We also notice with pleasure that one of the Presbyteries (West Jersey) remarks: "We are beginning to inquire into the practicability of organizing *parochial schools*, in which the children of our churches may receive a Christian education, and it is expected that three or four of these will be opened in the course of the summer;" and that in the report of another Presbytery (Western District) we find it stated: "In the First Church in Memphis a parochial school has been established, and other churches have that subject under consideration." These are examples which we trust will be followed by the other Presbyteries in quick and rapid succession. It is high time that all evangelical churches were awake to the importance of securing an education on Christian principles to those who are to occupy the posts of influence when the fathers have fallen asleep.

It is our privilege to say, in view of the sources of information which have been opened to us by the Presbyteries, that our congregations have done more than in any former year to advance the cause of Christ by their *pecuniary contributions*. To say nothing of the sums which have been expended in erecting new houses of worship, in supplying the famishing of other lands with the means of subsistence, and in sustaining benevolent enterprises which are not immediately under the care of our own Church, we find that the Boards of Domestic and Foreign Missions and the Board of Education all report an increase in the amount of their funds, and speak of their fields of labor respectively as becoming wider and more white unto the harvest. We cannot enter into particulars here, nor is it needful, as the reports of these Boards at length will be spread before the Church for their perusal and consideration. But you will allow us to say, affectionately and earnestly, that we have only *begun* to do our duty in the great work of raising up a learned, pious, and faithful ministry, and in sending them forth to supply the

waste places both at home and abroad. The age and country in which we live, the number and resources of our Church, the love of Christ, the wants of the world, and the hope of heaven, call upon us for still greater things in this department than we have yet accomplished.

We are notified by the Board of Publication that during the past year they have taken a step in advance of their previous action. They have resolved on availing themselves of the *colporteur* system in circulating their issues among the churches and in destitute neighborhoods. The value of this agency has been so far exemplified in the experience of other associations as fully to justify the expectation that if they should be enabled to employ it extensively the results would be most happy. This, however, they cannot do unless funds are placed at their disposal for this purpose. The income from the sale of books would not justify them in going forward to any considerable extent; but, having received generous donations from a few individuals, and trusting that the plan will find increasing favor, they have entered upon the work. A few agents have been appointed who have already entered upon their respective fields, and their purpose is to increase the number as fast as the means which they may receive will warrant.

In reviewing the past we find that notice has been taken by several previous Assemblies of the interest manifested in the religious instruction of the *colored population* of our country. The reports received this year justify the belief that this interest has greatly increased since the meeting of the last Assembly. Almost all the Presbyteries covering the ground where this portion of our population are found in the greatest numbers refer to the subject, and speak of efforts to supply them with the means of grace as being decidedly on the advance. The following are specimens of the communications we have received on this subject: The Presbytery of South Alabama say: "Perhaps without a solitary exception our ministers are devoting a considerable part of their labors to the benefit of the colored population. It is a field which we all love to cultivate, and to some the great Head of the Church is intimating an abundant harvest." "Most of our pastors," say the Presbytery of Charleston, "devote a part of their time to the exclusive service of the blacks, and in some instances with the most pleasing success. A scheme is now in agitation, with the full consent of the Presbytery, for establishing an African church in the city of Charleston." The Presbytery of Georgia remark, in relation to one of their number who devotes his whole time to this work, "During the year he has been blessed with a revival in one part of his field of labor. Fourteen professed conversion and were added to the church. Another brother, in another part of our bounds, reports the conversion and reception into the church to which he ministers of eight colored persons." And the Presbytery of Hopewell speak of their churches generally as cheerfully yielding the half of their pastor's services to this department of labor. They also express the belief that several churches will soon be erected for the exclusive accommodation of the colored people, and that the field will be occupied as missionary ground by at least one of their number, who is deeply interested in the work. Many other Presbyteries have addressed us in substantially the same language; and we record these facts as going to encourage the hope that a better day is about to dawn upon the interests of this long-neglected class of our people.

On the subject of *temperance* the reports of this year are exceedingly various, and, on the whole, less encouraging than we were prepared to expect. Seventeen of the Presbyteries speak of the cause either as stationary or retrograde in some parts of their bounds, while the number is much fewer that represent it as exhibiting tokens of decided advancement. It is true, indeed, as one of the Presbyteries remarks, that we are to distinguish between the

temperance *cause* and temperance *societies*. The latter may sometimes suffer a temporary decline in numbers and efficiency for other reasons than because the great principles of the temperance reformation are losing their hold upon the public mind. And this, we would hope, is in some measure true of the present position of things in reference to this interest. But, however this may be, it is plain enough that intemperance is still a giant evil among the others which are spreading desolation through the land, and one which, in many places, is increasing instead of declining in strength. Let the members of our churches and congregations be assured of this; but, instead of filling them with alarm or discouragement, let this assurance awaken them to new and more faithful exertions in endeavoring to stem the tide of this evil, and deliver the nation from its unrelenting and cruel bondage.

We learn from the reports of *twenty-one* of our Presbyteries that *special awakenings*, more or less extensive, have occurred within their bounds during the progress of the year. In some cases the churches are mentioned by name, while in others the statements are without reference to particular localities. The Presbytery of Charleston speak of their largest church as having received an addition during the year of one hundred and twenty-two converts, who give good reasons for believing that they have been born again; and also of the presence of the Spirit as having been felt in other churches. The Presbytery of Hopewell say: "Reviving showers of divine grace have descended on *nine* churches." And they refer to Franklin College at Athens, Georgia, the University at Midway, and two schools under the care of two members of Presbytery as participating in this spiritual bounty. The Presbytery of Flint River report *five* churches in which the work of God has been attended with much power and grace, and the Presbyteries of Louisville, West Hanover, and Transylvania about an equal number, the latter referring especially to the college at Danville as having shared in the converting influences of the Spirit. One or more churches have received refreshing visitations within the bounds of the Presbyteries of Tuscaloosa, Columbia, Harmony, East Alabama, Missouri, East Hanover, Iowa, Schuyler, Brazos, Palestine, Miami, Ohio, Raritan, Newton, Elizabethtown, and New York; and, after these there are several others which speak of an awakened state of feeling among professing Christians where no considerable accessions have occurred from the world.

But while we record these tokens of the divine presence and favor with gratitude to the Head of the Church and as an encouragement to believe that God is still waiting to be gracious, we are compelled in truth and faithfulness to say that a large majority of the Presbyteries speak of the piety of the churches generally as in a low state. They mourn over the lukewarmness of professing Christians, their worldly conformity, their want of interest in meetings for prayer and Christian communion, and the consequent inefficiency of their example and influence for good. There is great reason for humiliation, repentance, and turning to the Lord on this behalf. The Spirit of the Lord is not among us as in former times; and we trust, brethren, that you will be disposed with us to cry aloud and spare not, until God shall return and make our Jerusalem a praise in the earth.

We are admonished by the reports which we have received of the deaths of both ministers and elders that our time for prayer and labor is short, and that whatsoever our hands find to do, it becomes us to do with our might. One Presbytery records the death of no less than three of their number as occurring in the short period of six months; and this list, if we were in possession of all the facts, might be greatly extended. We, as individuals, are to be followers of them who through faith and patience have inherited the promises in death as well as in life. The Master in whose vineyard we

labor will soon convey to us the message: "Give an account of thy stewardship; thou mayest be no longer steward." Wherefore, beloved brethren, let us arise and work while it is called to-day. Let us forget the things which are behind, and reach forth to those things which are before. Let us be steadfast and unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as we know that our labor is not in vain in the Lord.

J. H. THORNWELL, *Moderator*.

Richmond, June, 1847.

AGGREGATE OF PRESBYTERIAL STATISTICS, 1847.

PRESBYTERIES.	Ministers.	Licentiate.	Candidates.	Churches.	Com. added on Examination.	Com. added on Certificate.	Colored Com-munists.	Total of Com-munists.	Adults Bap-tized.	Infants Bap-tized.	Funds raised for Domestic Missions.	Funds raised for Foreign Missions.	Funds raised for Education.	Funds raised for Board of Publication.	Funds raised for Theological Seminaries.	Commission-ers' Fund.	Contingent Fund.	Miscellaneous Collections.	STATED CLERKS OF PRESBYTERIES.
Londonderry	23	...	...	10	10	24	...	1505	3	34	...	\$42	...	...	...	\$14	\$ 50	.....	Edward L. Parker.
Troy	14	2	8	12	39	79	...	2003	15	39	\$278	442	\$74	.....	.....	38	4 50	\$278	Villory D. Reed.
Albany	36	4	18	25	28	99	...	3472	7	88	799	1518	831	.....	\$1563	50	45 25	2071	Albert T. Chester.
Columbia	6	...	...	3	...	2	...	217	...	4	48	64	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Alfred Gardner.
Ogdensburg	6	1	3	7	15	15	...	799	5	19	43	121	39	.....	.....	37	1 00	118	John A. Savage.
Buffalo City	13	...	...	11	48	66	...	935	5	53	200	116	2	.....	.....	37	1 00	260	A. T. Young.
Steuben	9	...	...	8	101	11	...	642	7	23	131	222	33	.....	3	40	3 25	180	Thomas Aiken.
Wyoming	8	...	...	7	13	9	...	378	...	11	79	59	.....	.....	30	9	1 50	20	J. W. McDonald.
Hudson	18	3	1	17	55	20	...	1636	16	55	376	431	39	.....	7	41	18 10	421	John H. Leggett.
North River	13	3	...	9	14	28	...	863	4	23	427	410	37	\$1	4	35	12 63	751	John Johnston.
Bedford	13	...	1	15	10	21	9	1300	2	47	363	566	236	.....	.....	40	12 05	727	Jacob Green.
Long Island	16	...	...	17	...	...	...	1847	...	...	...	...	...	.....	.....	...	...	...	James McDougall.
New York	33	20	9	25	185	402	73	4638	31	308	6455	8891	4654	2523	2000	225	186 41	45172	John M. Krebs, D. D.
New York 2d	11	2	2	6	35	50	...	1320	12	52	698	2350	655	.....	.....	40	6 00	.....	D. N. Halliday.
Elizabethtown	30	4	...	23	58	123	...	4825	13	150	903	1140	692	20	75	...	30 00	4975	James M. Huntington.
New Brunswick	37	16	12	24	79	107	...	4322	32	142	1131	1295	777	.....	259	84	30 02	2621	Eli F. Cooley.
Newton	27	2	5	25	148	78	...	3467	38	190	602	655	542	.....	59	56	16 44	1311	James McWilliam.
Raritan	10	4	6	12	58	21	...	1904	33	101	206	200	216	.....	18	31	6 50	228	P. O. Stoddiford, D. D.
West Jersey	16	...	9	16	44	37	...	1604	21	58	409	793	559	.....	...	27	10 60	3176	Samuel B. Jones.
Luzerne	13	...	5	14	21	67	...	949	5	57	184	163	303	.....	...	6	4 50	541	Richard Webster.
Susquehanna	13	2	1	16	10	2	1	755	2	37	57	61	46	.....	...	31	4 00	110	Julius Foster.
Philadelphia	21	12	28	17	150	181	...	4078	11	2418	2448	3506	3178	5	.....	94	86 68	8714	Wm. M. Engles, D. D.
Philadelphia 2d	18	1	6	14	52	47	...	1248	15	60	355	482	178	.....	...	13	11 50	635	W. D. Howard.
New Castle	18	2	11	22	26	47	...	2702	6	102	422	586	296	.....	...	24	10 46	2456	Robert P. Du Bois.
Donegal	16	3	6	22	75	41	...	2384	27	148	546	708	226	3	.....	12	4 00	508	T. Marshall Boggs.
Baltimore	30	6	3	33	66	138	...	2279	5	125	803	1928	974	.....	3000	26	4 00	2031	John C. Baekus.
Carlisle	28	4	8	44	65	30	...	4899	5	112	578	2354	330	.....	.....	28	13 06	956	Thomas Creigh.
Huntingdon	29	3	3	37	130	108	...	4949	16	319	664	1928	884	.....	.....	86	15 00	984	W. J. Gibson.
Northumberland	22	1	3	32	97	42	...	3116	7	118	389	1091	308	.....	.....	72	15 00	2163	Isaac Grier.
Blairsville	25	6	3	40	283	131	...	4933	45	416	1161	1466	1086	35	.....	93	13 00	593	Adam Torrance.
Red Stone	19	...	6	31	141	78	...	2911	34	213	589	318	243	2	523	60	8 50	818	Samuel Wilson.
Ohio	39	3	11	33	231	187	...	4143	36	284	1428	1652	848	.....	1031	131	26 30	3255	W. B. Melvaine.

PRESBYTERIES.	Ministers.	Candidates.	Churches.	Comm. added on Examination.	Comm. added on Certificate.	Colored communicants.	Total of Communicants.	Adults Baptized.	Infants Baptized.	Funds raised for Domestic Missions.	Funds raised for Foreign Missions.	Funds raised for Education.	Funds raised for Board of Publication.	Funds raised for Theological Seminaries.	Commissioners' Fund.	Contingent Fund.	Miscellaneous Collections.	STATED CLERKS OF PRESBYTERIES.
Upper Missouri.....	4	1	14	...	...	...	252	...	...	\$1727	\$628	\$562	...	...	\$89	...	\$1886	John L. Yantis.
Louisville.....	13	6	...	212	97	101	1854	85	102	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	W. W. Hill.
Muhlenburg.....	9	1	15	17	8	5	565	8	24	98	32	27	\$1	...	69	...	...	Joseph B. Hadden.
Transylvania.....	10	5	12	168	22	8	1726	47	77	1291	1043	779	...	...	73	...	1241	John Montgomery.
West Lexington.....	21	5	18	118	40	...	1440	35	75	2098	566	457	...	...	131	\$20 00	1905	Charles A. Campbell.
Elizabeth.....	15	3	26	54	47	...	1054	18	83	275	211	166	...	...	58	...	...	R. C. Grundy.
Bowling Green.....	...	...	17	36	4	...	585	13	21	9	5	12	...	...	68	...	62	B. D. Thomas.
Greenbrier.....	14	...	20	...	...	...	1076	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Joseph Brown.
Lexington.....	23	4	28	68	40	142	3286	25	144	329	409	282	...	...	115	9 50	586	J. A. Van Lear.
Winchester.....	19	2	30	63	44	34	1412	17	71	510	471	336	...	...	29	7 50	1931	G. W. McPhail.
East Hanover.....	14	2	13	43	27	34	1283	9	70	926	1079	1139	1	...	93	31 00	1920	John Leyburn, D. D.
West Hanover.....	37	5	2	42	45	38	1996	18	58	316	436	327	5	41	134	5 00	626	P. J. Sparrow, D. D.
Montgomery.....	11	2	18	27	15	...	1028	9	42	122	89	75	5	5	105	4 50	246	Henry H. Paine.
Orange.....	28	6	42	90	20	...	2495	42	56	332	554	350	94	20	153	13 00	1378	N. H. Harding.
Concord.....	28	4	1	55	198	49	554	44	241	357	378	88	14	14	99	10 50	313	J. S. McCutcheon.
Fayetteville.....	29	1	1	48	73	13	152	10	99	151	297	157	6	5	68	4 00	64	Colin McIver.
Holston.....	4	1	1	7	8	...	416	1	11	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Samuel Y. Wily.
West Tennessee.....	10	3	8	17	10	128	816	3	32	153	412	32	...	...	...	...	155	James M. Arnell.
Nashville.....	11	1	14	64	36	19	1052	23	60	854	402	342	429	...	105	5 00	1057	John T. Edgar, D. D.
Western District.....	18	1	6	31	111	123	1623	7	120	661	831	370	...	...	114	9 00	2441	Henry M. Kerr.
Knoxville.....	5	1	...	8	28	11	20	553	5	30	233	150	...	...	140	2 50	80	R. B. McMullen.
South Carolina.....	21	2	1	41	76	14	2104	27	64	858	106	160	...	...	226	...	...	Samuel B. Lewers.
Bethel.....	11	1	5	21	70	19	246	2048	27	125	96	234	...	...	371	5 00	400	William Bready.
Harmony.....	22	1	2	25	103	9	2144	50	81	313	440	162	...	...	2015	...	...	B. M. Palmer, Jr.
Charleston.....	16	1	6	8	151	32	303	835	36	36	1220	1095	...	...	7043	117	590	Francis Bowman.
Hopewell.....	15	6	2	29	180	39	1411	47	34	326	763	589	...	...	132	...	515	Charles C. Jones, D. D.
Georgia.....	17	...	9	25	6	40	279	18	19	182	279	217	...	...	...	...	...	James C. Patterson.
Flint River.....	13	2	4	37	88	24	1086	25	66	122	74	124	...	...	65	5 00	819	Joshua Phelps.
Florida.....	6	...	15	36	53	...	620	6	49	130	70	...	...	...	65	4 50	35	J. M. Caldwell.
Cherokee.....	8	...	15	36	53	...	620	6	49	130	70	...	...	...	213	7 50	1055	J. B. King.
South Alabama.....	15	1	3	23	142	50	1541	47	125	577	564	171	...	...	...	...	...	Charles A. Stillman.
Tuscaloosa.....	20	...	5	26	275	27	1526	30	79	484	398	94	...	...	191	7 50	928	R. C. Smith.
East Alabama.....	17	1	3	36	84	77	1213	24	86	133	163	80	3	225	132	26 00	534	J. Chamberlain, D. D.
Mississippi.....	16	1	4	15	30	33	1068	10	60	958	1274	263	...	...	204	12 54	1689	

Louisiana	18	3	...	19	91	114	134	1350	51	158	2874	1123	360	5	35	101	4	37	6992	Berry Chase.
Clinton	6	...	...	12	1	1	...	139	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	S. M. Montgomery.
Tombecbee	11	...	...	30	47	63	45	748	16	58	209	...	143	7	...	110	3	50	...	H. J. Bartwell.
Chickasaw	12	...	...	27	59	82	58	871	22	34	371	40	38	3	...	68	7	50	437	James Weatherby.
Indian	6	3	2	8	96	138	...	645	58	47	1358	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	C. Kingsbury.
Brazos	10	2	...	13	27	30	...	282	8	23	18	78	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	J. W. Miller.
Arkansas	8	...	...	14	23	11	43	232	4	13	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	A. R. Banks.
Lodiana	5	1	...	1	2	...	...	16	2	2	...	...	14	...	...	...	...	...	...	John Newton.
Furrukabad	8	1	...	1	5	...	...	34	5	7	...	24	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	J. L. Scott.
Allahabad	5	...	...	1	8	5	...	32	2	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	J. Owen.
Total, 118.	1713	231	343	2376	7602	5673	2766	179453	1794	9342	\$50706	\$58767	\$30557	\$5091	\$27649	6521	959	91	129834	

GENERAL VIEW.

DURING the year closing May, 1847, the Presbytery of Wisconsin has reported its organization, according to the resolution of the last Assembly. The Synod of Illinois also has organized the Presbytery of Rock River, and the Synod of West Tennessee the Presbytery of Knoxville. The following statistics are, as will be observed, for two years:

	1846.	1847.
Synods in connection with General Assembly.....	22	22
Presbyteries	115	118
Candidates for the ministry	339	343
Licentiates	218	231
Ministers.....	1647	1713
Churches.....	2297	2376
During these years there were		
Licenses	72	82
Ordinations.....	78	64
Installations	87	72
Pastoral relations dissolved.....	52	52
Churches organized, and received from other bodies	45	*44
Ministers received from other denominations	14	15
Ministers gone to other denominations.....	6	7
Members added to the Church on examination... ..	7792	7602
Members added to the Church on certificate.....	5733	5672
Adults baptized	2036	1794
Children baptized.....	9677	9342
Whole number of communicants reported.....	174,714	179,453
Amount contributed for religious purposes.....	\$254,856.70	\$310,164.91

The following ministers have died during the year:

NAMES.	PRESBYTERIES.
Reuben Sears.....	Albany.
Mcthusaleh Baldwin	Hudson.
Jacob Bryant.....	Elizabethtown.
Thomas Wilson, missionary in Africa.....	Newton.
William Loughridge	Philadelphia.
Thomas Hoge	"
William Latta, D. D.	"
John D. Perkins	New Castle.
Robert Dunlap.....	Ohio.
Robert Semple.....	Beaver.
John F. Kean	Erie.
James Robinson	Marion.
James Culbertson	Zanesville.
John A. Dunlap	Miami.
Joshua L. Wilson, D. D.	Cincinnati.
James Hummer.....	Crawfordsville.
Samuel G. Weeks	Fort Wayne.
John Lyle	West Lexington.
A. A. Campbell.....	Western District.
Samuel M. Williamson	"

* Seventy newly-organized churches were reported to the Board of Missions.

NAMES.	PRESBYTERIES.
John B. Kennedy	South Carolina.
John Harrison	Hopewell.
Samuel Hurd	Chickasaw.
Total, 23; last year, 19.	

The incompleteness of many of our Presbyterian reports still furnishes reason for regret. It will be seen from the above aggregates that there has been a gratifying increase during the year in the number of our Presbyteries, candidates, licentiates, ministers, churches, and communicants. The increase, also, of the amount raised for religious purposes, it will be observed, is over fifty-five thousand dollars. In reference to several of these items complete returns would have shown still larger results.

WILLIS LORD,
Stated Clerk of the General Assembly.

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M

Author
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